

15 hurt in Pretoria explosion

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A bomb exploded outside a big supermarket in suburban Pretoria on Friday, injuring 15 people, the government said. The bureau for information said it had reports so far of 15 casualties — people of all racial groups — in the blast, the 13th since the white-led government clamped a state of emergency on the country three weeks ago. Black workers, whose unions have taken an increasingly militant political stand in recent months, went on strike at four diamond mines on Friday in protest against the detention since the emergency of trade union officials. Friday's bomb appeared to be the latest in the most sustained bombing campaign ever mounted by black nationalists in South Africa (Related story on page 8).

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

N. Cyprus closes land borders

NICOSIA (AP) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş Friday slammed shut the borders of his breakaway mini-state at the end of a tense visit there by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. Mr. Denktaş said the closure was in retaliation for international criticism of Mr. Ozal's visit to the statelet in Turkish-occupied northern Cyprus which is recognised only by Turkey. He announced the closure of the border at Lefkoniko airport immediately after Mr. Ozal flew back to Ankara after this controversial three-day visit (See page 2). It sparked a wave of protests by Greek Cypriots, who staged a round-the-clock vigil, closing the main north-south crossing point by Nicosia's Ledra Palace Hotel.

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King congratulates Venezuelan leader

AMMAN (Pena) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Friday to Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi congratulating him on the occasion of Venezuela's National Day. The King wished President Lusinchi continued good health and happiness and the people of Venezuela further progress and prosperity.

How to begin African mission on Tuesday

LONDON (AP) — Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe is expected to leave Tuesday for southern Africa to try and bring about talks between the white-led South African government and black leaders, diplomatic sources said Friday. A formal announcement of Mr. Howe's trip was expected soon, Foreign Office officials said.

Morocco denies Marcos seeking asylum there

RABAT (R) — Ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos is not seeking asylum in Morocco, Morocco's official MAP news agency said on Friday, denying a Philippine newspaper report. "Reports that former President Marcos might be seeking political asylum in Morocco and that a member of his family had gone to Rabat from Hawaii are without any foundation," authoritative Moroccan sources said. MAP reported (See earlier story on page 8).

Moscow replaces head of Chernobyl probe

MOSCOW (AP) — The director of the Soviet government commission investigating the Chernobyl nuclear accident has been replaced, a report by the official news agency TASS indicated Friday. A Soviet newspaper also carried an account of an accident at the disaster site which showered workers with highly radioactive water. Boris Shcherbina, 66, had been appointed head of the commission immediately after the April 26 disaster that has killed at least 26 people.

Carter boycotts Harare reception

HARARE (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter led a walkout of American diplomats and several Western allies from a Fourth of July diplomatic reception here Friday after a Zimbabwean minister began attacking U.S. policy on South Africa. Mr. Carter and U.S. Charge d'Affaires Edward Lampher led about 40 Americans from the reception room of the Meikles Hotel after David Karimanzira, Zimbabwe's minister of youth, denounced American and British foreign policy. He accused Washington of indirectly supporting South African terrorism.

Kuwaiti emir asks Sheikh Saad to form new cabinet after dissolving parliament

Partial suspension of constitution and press censorship take effect

KUWAIT (Agencies) — The emir of Kuwait has dissolved parliament amid what he described as security and economic crises and ordered a new government to be formed to face what he said were unprecedented ordeals and hardships.

In an address Thursday night, the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, said his country of 1.7 million people had been "exposed to a fierce foreign conspiracy which threatened lives and almost destroyed the wealth of the homeland."

He suspended several articles of the constitution, including one requiring him to call fresh elections within 60 days of the dissolution of

the 50-member assembly. "He is to rule by decree."

A decree reported by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on Friday enables the government to suspend newspapers, subjects periodicals to prior censorship, and tightens licensing and advertising regulations.

The emir, 60, who survived a car-bomb assassination attempt in May last year, said in another

decree, read on Kuwait radio and television Thursday night, the country faced "many ordeals (and) hardships, unprecedented in any society."

He referred to the nearly six-year-old war between Iran and Iraq, which has moved within sight of Kuwaiti borders, and said the country also faced an acute economic crisis.

The emir requested the crown prince, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, to form a new government following the cabinet's resignation this week because of what Sheikh Saad called lack of cooperation between ministers and the assembly, the only elected

(Continued on page 2)

Iraq reports blunting new Iranian offensive with sweeping air action

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran claimed its army pushed into eastern Iraq's panhandle Friday, but Iraq said it unleashed waves of fighter-bombers that halted the five-day-old offensive.

Tehran Radio said Iranian forces have "liberated" more than 250 kilometres of Iraqi territory and Iranian land seized by the Iraqis last month since the offensive was launched Monday in the Mehriz sector, 170 kilometres south of Baghdad.

Baghdad Radio reported that its forces blunted the Iranian offensive in heavy fighting and now "are in complete control."

The radio, quoting military spokesmen, said Iraqi fighter-bombers flew more than 150 combat missions against Iranian troop concentrations.

It said the jets destroyed 250 armoured personnel carriers, killing all the occupants and knocked out three Iranian helicopters on the ground in nighttime strikes.

Helicopter gunships swooped on other concentrations, the radio added. It said they inflicted "heavy losses in men, armour and equipment."

A military spokesman said dozens of warplanes attacked a 250-truck convoy carrying Iranian soldiers in the area, on the south-central front, "fully destroying them and ... all those who were inside them."

He said warplanes also raided Iranian troops concentrations in the sector, inflicting thousands of casualties. He did not elaborate.

Iraq said on Wednesday that

Iran had retaken the Iranian border town of Mehriz, 170 kilometres southeast of Baghdad, and that Iraqi forces had been withdrawn to the international border after a six-week occupation.

An Iraqi defence minister official, political guidance chief Abdul Jabbar Muhsen, told Reuters in a telephone interview that the decision to withdraw had been made to save lives.

He said the Iranians in their initial assault on Monday night had occupied a strategic ridge overlooking Iraqi positions on the desert plain.

"A wise decision was made to prevent Iraqi losses under these circumstances and the troops were

(Continued on page 2)

Mubarak: Arab rift undermines prospects for Middle East peace

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak warned Arab states in an interview on Friday that hopes for peace in the Middle East were doomed if they could not heal the rift dividing them.

He told Al Ahram newspaper that he wanted to revive the Middle East peace progress through patching up differences between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) over the peace process.

"The peace process has exhausted us. We have left no avenue without exploration and our present efforts are to convince Jordan and the PLO to bridge their differences or else peace in the region will meet a slow death."

Mr. Mubarak said one of the main obstacles to peace was Arab failure to agree on a joint practical move among themselves. "In my

view this is a catastrophe of which we Arabs are to blame."

Mr. Mubarak said he and King Hussein had agreed not to accept a "Gaza first" solution to the Palestinian problem.

Under the proposal, aired recently in Israel, the Israeli-held Gaza Strip would be returned to Egyptian administration before any accord on the West Bank.

Mr. Mubarak told Al Ahram he and the King saw the future of Gaza and the West Bank as interlinked.

A "Gaza first" scheme has been discussed, without detailed proposals being publicised, in recent months.

Rashid Shawwa, a former Gaza mayor, said last week senior U.S. and Israeli officials had shown interest in an Israeli pullout from

Gaza while keeping "external affairs and security" under Israeli control.

Mr. Mubarak said he and King Hussein agreed that a solution to the occupied territories as a whole had to be found.

"We do not accept resolution of the Palestine problem being broken up," he said. "The future of the Gaza Strip must be associated with the future of the West Bank."

The Egyptian president denied accusations by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi that Egypt supplied the United States with intelligence reports that facilitated American air strikes against Libya on April 15.

"We neither attack nor offer help to any country to attack another Arab state," he said.

Syrian soldiers patrol W. Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Uniformed Syrian soldiers patrolled west Beirut on Friday for the first time since they evacuated the Lebanese capital in Israel's 1982 invasion.

At least 10 helmeted Syrian soldiers equipped with Soviet-made rocket-propelled grenade launchers and AK-47 assault rifles were seen manning checkpoints along with Lebanese troops and Syrian intelligence servicemen.

Syrian military spokesmen in Beirut said their soldiers were on a peacekeeping mission to help enforce a week-old security plan aimed at ending the lawless reign of militias.

The spokesmen would not disclose the exact size of the force dispatched to west Beirut. But one informant, speaking on condition of anonymity, said "fewer than 50" commandos from the Syrian army's crack special units were in town.

The Syrian army, which has a 1976 mandate from the Arab League to smother Lebanon's civil war, evacuated Beirut along with the Palestine Liberation Organisation in September and October of 1982. The Israeli army had then laid siege to the western sector.

There was no immediate reaction to the small-sized Syrian deployment in Beirut from Israel. Its Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin declined to comment.

As the apparently token Syrian force appeared on the streets, the new security plan to reinstate Lebanese government authority in Beirut received its first jolt in a week.

Syrian soldiers appeared with Lebanese troops at the medical gate to the kidnap-ravaged American University of Beirut (AUB) on Friday.

The joint patrol stayed three hours at the AUB gate and then pulled off to patrol elsewhere in town.

One Syrian intelligence officer told photographers, "You can say these are the special units of the Syrian army as well as Syrian intelligence officers and Lebanese army troops guarding the AUB. This is the new security plan."

The officer, who did not give his name, was supervising the direction of traffic, stopping cars and ordering occupants to be searched for arms.

A Syrian major, who declined to give his name, said his special units commandos arrived in Beirut Thursday "to assist Lebanese government troops in carrying out the security plan." He refused to elaborate.

Syrian special units last month deployed in the southeast Lebanese town of Mashgara to separate warring pro-Syrian leftist militiamen and Iranian-backed Shiite fundamentalists.

An AP reporter in Mashgara denied reports by Israeli military sources that the Syrians had pulled out from the town on Thursday.

Strike fails to break Lebanese political deadlock, page 2

Hart arrives in Cairo after talks in Jordan

Combined agency despatches

U.S. SENATOR Gary Hart left Amman on Friday after a three-day visit during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and other senior officials.

Sen. Hart, a leading contender for the 1988 Democratic Party nomination for presidency, later arrived in Cairo, where he was expected to hold talks with President Ismail el-Sadat. Foreign Minister Esmat-Abdul Meguid and Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala.

The King received Sen. Hart at the Royal Palace in Amman on Thursday, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Petra did not give details of the King's talks with Sen. Hart which were attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Paul Baker.

Earlier on Thursday, Sen. Hart held talks in Amman with Mr. Rifai, Royal Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Idris Shaker and Foreign Minister Ishaq Al Masri.

Mr. Qasbi and Mr. Al Odeh briefed Sen. Hart on Jordan's economic situation and the Kingdom's present and previous five-year development plans, the situation in West Bank and Gaza and the Jewish state's policy of building settlements in the occupied territories.

Sen. Hart, a Democrat from Colorado, is scheduled to visit



Gary Hart

Israel after his talks in Egypt. In an interview published by an Israeli newspaper on Thursday, Sen. Hart was quoted as saying that the U.S. should actively press its on both sides to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"Pressing it must be applied to both parties. It must be applied to every one, not just one side," the newspaper, Haaretz, quoted him as saying.

Sen. Hart was also asked about the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984 and is considered a possible candidate in the 1988 campaign.

Asked about his endorsement of a homeland for Palestinians in a recent television interview, Sen. Hart told Haaretz he "did not necessarily mean a judicial or political entity as such."

"I meant some place where Palestinians could live under some kind of recognised jurisdictional circumstances. It could certainly be a confederation with Jordan."

King cables good wishes to Reagan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a cable of good wishes to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the anniversary of the U.S. Independence Day.

Following is the text of the message:

Dear Mr. President,

"On my behalf and that of the people and government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, I give you great pleasure to extend to you and the government and people of the United States of America my warmest congratulations on the occasion of your Independence Day."

"This very special occasion highlights the noble principles and ideals that were the four great nations was built — principles and ideals that embody the right of all peoples to live in dignity, liberty and peace, free from oppression and war, a goal that is shared by all who strive for a better future for all mankind."

"As always, it was a pleasure to meet you in Washington last month, Mr. President, and to again have the opportunity to renew our joint commitment and common objective of achieving a just and lasting peace in the Middle East region."

"Noor joins me in sending you and Mrs. Nancy Reagan our warmest best wishes for your continued good health and happiness."

Soviet Union appeals to U.S. for joint efforts towards arms control

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union on Friday marked the U.S. Independence Day national holiday with an appeal to President Ronald Reagan for practical efforts to end the arms race.

The annual greeting from the Supreme Soviet, the highest state body, reiterated Kremlin calls for the total abolition of nuclear weapons and for preventing an arms race in space.

"We call on the United States to join us in efforts towards creating a comprehensive system of international security meeting the fundamental interests of the Soviet and American peoples and all the peoples of the planet," it said.

The message was somewhat more direct than last year's greeting, which came one day after the news broke that Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would hold the first superpower summit in six years.

In a clear allusion to the Kremlin view that Mr. Reagan has been stalling on arms control, it said concrete steps were needed to guarantee peace and security.

Naval flotilla takes part in Statue of Liberty birthday bash

NEW YORK (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Friday he would not ask French President Francois Mitterrand to carry a message to Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

"I don't think that would be appropriate to impose on him," Mr. Reagan said at the start of what officials described as a working lunch with Mr. Mitterrand. "He has his own relationship with other countries."

Mr. Reagan responded after being asked by a reporter whether he would send a message when Mr. Mitterrand goes to Moscow on Monday. The French leader came to New York to participate in ceremonies marking the rededication of the newly renovated Statue of Liberty, which was a gift from France.

Mr. Reagan said he intended to discuss East-West relations with

"Such conditions can be ensured for all states only by practical actions" towards the elimination of nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction and the prevention of an arms race in space, the message stated.

Last year's message spoke in more general terms of the Soviet Union's readiness for "fruitful and equitable cooperation" to reach the goal of living in a peaceful world without destructive weapons on earth or in space.

It was carried on the front page of the Communist Party newspaper Pravda beneath the announcement that Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev would meet in Geneva in November.

This year's message, on an inside page of Pravda, made no mention of a new superpower summit despite recent signals from Moscow that it was ready to go ahead with preparations for a meeting in Washington this year as agreed at the last summit.

A Soviet official said on Tuesday that Moscow was taking steps to arrange a pre-summit ministerial meeting. The Kremlin cancelled similar talks due in May

after the April 15 U.S. bombing raid on Libya.

But Soviet officials have also continued to press their stand that a summit should produce tangible results on arms control, and senior Western diplomats say they expect drawn-out manoeuvring before a summit date is agreed.

Although it has cautiously welcomed Moscow's latest arms control proposals, Washington has avoided linking the summit to arms control issues alone, saying other questions such as human rights and regional conflicts should also be discussed.

The Soviet Ambassador to the U.S., Yuri Dubinin, had an unannounced meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz on Wednesday. The State Department called it cordial and positive. Spokesman Charles Redman said they discussed general questions on U.S.-Soviet relations.

Redman said no date had been set for talks between Mr. Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to prepare for a summit.

Reagan not to ask Mitterrand to take message to Gorbachev

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Mr. Mitterrand during their meal in the admiral's residence on Governors Island, a coast guard installation.

Asked whether he was concerned that Mr. Mitterrand has not expressed strong support for Mr. Reagan's strategic defence initiative — better known as "Star Wars" — the U.S. president replied with a smile: "We have a very happy relationship."

Asked for his reaction to Mr. Gorbachev's recent statement that Mr. Reagan still is not serious about arms control, the president replied: "Well, then he's just misinformed."

Mr. Reagan said the Gorbachev letter, delivered last week by new Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin, included proposals on several issues, including arms control, regional conflicts, human rights and emigration.

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The Jordan Times' new telephone numbers: 667171-6 and 670141-4

Beirut general strike fails to break political deadlock

BEIRUT (R) — A general strike in protest against Lebanon's civil war and economic crisis ended Friday with no sign that it had broken a political deadlock.

"The strike failed to narrow the gap between rival political parties because each side still considers the other responsible for the worsening situation," a political analyst said.

The 24-hour stoppage drew mass support from Christians and Muslims in Lebanon, and even contending sectarian militias gave it formal backing.

But President Amin Gemayel's "national unity" government has not met for almost a year and remains paralysed by disputes over political reforms and Syria's role in Lebanon.

On the eve of the strike, the Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia said the cabinet was to blame for the crisis, which has pushed the national currency to a record low and sent prices soaring. The militia challenged ministers to meet or resign.

Sunni Muslim Prime Minister Rashid Karami already has offered to step down, but only if Mr. Gemayel, a Falangist, did likewise. "The president and the government share responsibility," he said Thursday.

Mr. Gemayel, 44, has vowed to stay in office until his six-year term expires in September 1988.

Sunni Education Minister and

former Prime Minister Selim Hoss marked the strike with a plea for Lebanese leaders to "put a final end to internal fighting."

A week ago, Syria moved to quell militia anarchy in Muslim-held Beirut, sending armed security men to help Lebanese troops and police crack down on gunmen.

The relative success of the new measures was marred Friday when four armed robbers stormed a west Beirut bank and fled with 400,000 Lebanese pounds (\$9,000).

In recent weeks, Syrian troops have also acted in parts of north and east Lebanon to curb battles between rival militias.

A joint force of 175 Syrian and Lebanese soldiers deployed in Mashghara village in the Bekaa Valley last month to halt clashes between the leftist Syrian Nationalist Social Party (SNSP) and the pro-Iranian Shi'ite Hizbollah (Party of God).

Israeli sources in Tel Aviv said Thursday the Syrians had withdrawn from the village, only 10 kilometres from Israel's self-proclaimed security zone in South Lebanon.

However, SNSP officials and Lebanese security sources in

Beirut said they knew of no change in Syrian positions.

Shops, banks, schools and Beirut International Airport resumed normal work at 7.00 a.m. (0400 GMT) after a stoppage designed to express outrage at the 11-year civil war and an economic crisis that has raised fears of widespread poverty.

Prices of food and consumer goods have risen an estimated 68.5 per cent this year and the Lebanese pound has lost more than half of its value against other currencies.

The strike, organised by the General Labour Federation, was backed by Muslim and Christian factions normally at odds. The federation plans further action, with sit-ins at government and private offices next Thursday, and marches on July 17.

At Beirut's Palestinian camps, bulldozers were still removing barricades that sealed them off during a five-week siege by Shi'ite Muslim fighters which claimed 160 lives.

The U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Thursday sent five truckloads of emergency food and medical supplies into Shatila, the camp's first fresh supplies since the Shi'ite Amal militia began its blockade in May.

UNRWA has also been able to deliver rations and medicine to 15,000 people in Bourj Al Barajneh camp following a Syrian-mediated ceasefire.

Sofaer returns to Cairo after talks in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — U.S. special envoy Abraham Sofaer continues talks on Israel's border dispute with Egypt over Taba in Cairo Saturday after seeing Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres Friday, diplomats said.

The two countries have agreed to international arbitration over the tiny coastal strip on the edge of the Sinai desert but disagree on the terms of the issue to be resolved.

Israel held on to Taba when it withdrew from the rest of Sinai following the 1979 Camp David peace accords. The dispute is holding up a broader improvement in relations.

Mr. Sofaer, who had three days of talks in Egypt this week, saw Mr. Peres after a third round of talks with senior Israeli officials and legal experts Friday morning in a bid to narrow differences on the question to be put to arbitrators.

A Foreign Ministry official told reporters the U.S. State Department's legal adviser had brought only "general thoughts" from Egypt on a key document, preventing a firm conclusion.

The Taba talks are bogged down over the precise question to be posed to arbitrators.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was quoted Wednesday as saying there had been progress on the issue and he was confident there would be an agreement on arbitration soon.

U.S. and Israeli officials say an accord on Taba could lead to a broader improvement in relations between the two countries which signed the 1979 Camp David peace accords, paving the way for a possible summit between Mr. Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"We're close to a deal with Egypt that would mean a breakthrough on Taba and on normalisation. This could bring more general progress in the peace process," a senior Israeli political source said.

If a procedure were agreed to resolve the issue, Egypt could be expected to restore its diplomatic mission in Israel to ambassador level and discuss boosting trade and tourism, he said.

Mr. Sofaer told reporters he had presented the Egyptian proposals at a meeting with Israeli Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche.

Diplomats said Mr. Sofaer was prepared to go on shuttling between Israel and Egypt until a compromise was agreed.

They said there were grounds for optimism but one cautioned: "We have seen cold before and nothing came of it."

Israel bases its claim to Taba on a 1906 colonial boundary drawing and is keen to ensure the continued operation of a luxury hotel which has been built on the site.

Shamir urges Israelis to forget Shin Bet scandal

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who was Prime Minister of Israel when two Palestinian bus hijackers were killed after their capture in 1984, has urged Israelis to forget about the case.

"I say to everyone, let's leave it alone and deal with the things that are really important," Mr. Shamir said in a speech Thursday night.

He cited the 12-day-old hospital nurses' strike, Jewish settlement in the occupied territories, the economy, immigration and national unity as subjects warranting more attention than the scandal.

Mr. Shamir refused until recently to reply to allegations that he gave Shin Bet, Israel's counter-terrorism agency, permission to kill the captured hijackers and launch a cover-up.

As prime minister, Shamir was responsible for Shin Bet activities. The leader of the right-wing Likud Party said he had not been involved in a cover-up and knew nothing of the affair until October 1985, when Prime Minister Shimon Peres told him about it. A Shin Bet agent had informed Peres.

In a written request for a presidential pardon granted him last week, Shin Bet chief Avraham Shalom said he had acted with the permission of his superiors, and apparent reference to Shamir.

Shalom "apparently didn't report everything to Shamir after the operation," Ahimeir told the Associated Press. Ahimeir

reiterated that Shamir learned of the Shin Bet cover-up only after deputy chief Reuven Hazak reported it to Peres last October.

Another aide who spoke on condition of anonymity said Shamir may make a full disclosure about his alleged role in the affair next week.

Shalom received a blanket pardon from President Chaim Herzog last week for allegedly ordering the killings. Shamir's letter asking for legal immunity suggested that the killings were authorised by Shamir.

The letter was read in Israel's supreme court Monday by appellants challenging Herzog's decision. In it Shamir wrote: "All my actions in the matter of bus 300 were carried out by authority and with permission."

Shalom told the AP: "If Ahimeir meant he had general authority, that is true, but the question is whether he ever told Shamir everything that happened."

Shalom "didn't have permission ahead of time because Shamir didn't know what happened there ... Shamir didn't bother to check what happened to the terrorists ... he never thought anyone had to be tried for it," Ahimeir added.

Israeli newspapers have quoted Shamir as saying that Shamir had authorised the killing of captured terrorists before the hijacking in an effort to stem a wave of attacks.

Iraq says offensive blunted

(Continued from page 1)

pulled back to well-fortified positions along the international border," said Mr. Muhsen.

He said militarily Mehran was worthless to the Iranians as Iraq's artillery covered the area and his troops overlooked the whole Mehran basin.

Iran's telecommunications links with the rest of the world remained disrupted, on Friday after an Iraqi raid on a satellite ground station in southern Iran.

Iraq said Wednesday its warplanes had destroyed Iran's communication station in Assad Abad, 330 kilometres southwest of Tehran, leaving it in flames.

The attack is the second within a month. Iraqi planes hit Assad Abad on June 8, leaving Iran cut off from the outside world for two days.

In Tokyo, officials at the international communications company Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. Ltd. said telephone links between Iran and Japan had been severed since 1630 GMT on Wednesday.

Right-wing Justice Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, speculating that the government could collapse over the affair, told the Maariv daily: "I smell early elections in the air."

Another aide said Shamir was likely to step back from earlier refusals and agree to a limited inquiry to avoid a cabinet breakup.

Stockbroker named as Pollard contact

TEL AVIV (AP) — A New York stockbroker has been identified as the associate who introduced spy Jonathan Jay Pollard to his Israeli contact, a newspaper reported Friday.

The English-language Jerusalem Post, quoting unidentified Israeli and American-Jewish sources, said stockbroker Steve Stern introduced Pollard to Col. Aviam Sella, Pollard's alleged handler. The newspaper said Stern was

alleged to have met Sella after the Israeli officer, then a graduate student at New York University, had delivered a speech for Israel bonds at a Manhattan synagogue.

Pollard, a former navy civilian analyst, pleaded guilty on June 4 to spying for Israel. His wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, also is charged as an accessory.

Israeli and American officials reportedly have been negotiating the terms under which U.S. officials can question Pollard.

Israel is said to want Sella to be granted immunity from prosecution in return, and for the questioning to take place in Israel.

Simcha Dinitz, a former Israeli ambassador to the United States and member of the parliament's committee that deliberates all security-related issues, told the Associated Press this week that Sella was an innocent victim.

Dinitz said Sella had only met Pollard twice, and the second time with a party with their wives when no espionage was discussed.

U.S. to study report of South African part in Lavi project

TEL AVIV (AP) — A U.S. congressional task force is coming here next week to check out reports that Israel has involved South Africa in the production of an Israeli-built jet fighter, the daily Haaretz reported Friday.

According to the report, U.S. officials believe South Africa may be investing in the research and development of the Lavi, an aircraft billed as Israel's plane of the 1990s.

In return, South Africa may be receiving know-how used in the Lavi to produce a plane of its own without needing permission from the United States, Haaretz reported. U.S. law forbids the transfer of technology to third countries without prior approval.

The Lavi's development costs are mostly covered by U.S. military aid to Israel, which last year amounted to \$1.8 billion.

The paper quoted unidentified sources close to the congressional delegation as saying they don't have proof of South African involvement but "there are too many indications pointing to such a connection."

Haaretz said the U.S. officials also will look into reports that Israel has turned to European countries to produce or develop some parts of the plane, which Israel is illegally financing with U.S. aid money.

The U.S. delegation will also try to resolve differing cost made by the Israeli manufacturers of the plane and a Pentagon group headed by Deputy Secretary of Defence Jov Zuckheim, Haaretz said.

Council of Europe ends mini-session

ISFANB JL (R) — Human rights and democracy in Turkey figured prominently during a week-long gathering of more than 200 members of the Council of Europe assembly which ended here Thursday night.

The issue, although not on the agenda, eclipsed other topics ranging from April's Soviet nuclear power disaster at Chernobyl to data protection and freedom of information.

The assembly's Socialist group organised a hearing on human rights in Turkey, which was attended by Turkish trade unionists, opposition parliamentarians and writers.

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17:30 Cartoons
17:50 Children programmes
18:15 Kids of Degeest Street
18:40 Animals 2000
19:05 Agricultural programmes (local)
19:30 Programmes review
19:45 News programme on Iraq
20:00 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:25 Figures and Events (Arabic)
22:00 Arabic film
22:30 News summary in Arabic
23:30 Film canal

PROGRAMME TWO

16:00 Tennis live from Wimbledon
16:30 Ladies singles final
16:50 French programme
17:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:50 News in Arabic
20:30 Youth Free
21:00 Louisiana
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: The Comeback Kid

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 95.60 KHz, SW
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07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:30 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:45 Morning Show Continued
11:00 Oriental Food
11:15 Your Health
11:30 Men from the Ministry
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session continued
13:30 News Bulletin
14:15 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental old favourites
17:00 Special Feature
18:10 Music
19:00 News Summary
19:05 Top Twenty
19:30 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Songs from Movies
20:30 Yes Minister
21:00 News Summary
21:05 In Concert
22:00 News Summary
22:05 Country Music

23:00 News Summary
23:05 Concert Hour
24:00 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newswatch 07:30 Grand National
Television 07:45 Reflections 7:50
Financial News 08:00 World News 08:00
24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 About
Britain 08:45 The World Today 09:00
Newswatch 09:30 Morning News 09:45
News 10:00 24 Hours: News Summary
10:30 From the Weeklies 10:45
Violation 11:00 World News 11:00
Reflections 11:15 Sportsweek 12:00
World News 12:00 British Press Review
12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial
News: Look Ahead 12:45 About Britain
13:00 News Summary: Here's the News
13:15 Letter from America 13:30 People
and Politics 13:45 Letter from America
14:00 World News 14:15 News About
Britain 14:15 Tenor and Baritone 14:30
Meridian 14:40 Radio Newswatch 15:15
Anything Goes 15:45 Sports Round-up
16:00 World News 16:00 Saturday
Special 16:30 Saturday Special 16:45
Saturday Special 17:00 News Summary
Saturday Special 18:00 Radio Newswatch
18:15 Saturday Special 18:30 World
News 19:00 Commentary 19:15
News 19:30 24 Hours: World News
Book Clinic 20:30 News Summary:
Saturday Special 20:45 Sports
Round-up 21:00 Newswatch 21:30
Saturday Special 22:00 News Summary:
Much Ado about nothing 22:30 World
News 23:00 24 Hours: News Summary
23:30 Jazz for the Aching 24:00 News
Summary: Sportsweek

VOICE OF AMERICA
1260 MW, 7200, 9565, 17740 11925
and 13210 KHz

07:00 News: Informal Presentation of
Popular Music with Feature Reports
Interviews, Answers to Listener's
Questions, Science Reports, Sports
News: at 30 minute past the hour.
Focus, Sunday Morning 9:10, Close Up,
Sunday morning at 9:10, 10:00 News
18:10 Music
19:00 News Summary
19:05 American Viewpoints 19:30 Special
English News and Features 20:00 News
21:00 Weekend 20:30 Magazine Show
21:50 News 22:10 Close-up 22:30
Special English News & Features 22:50
News 22:10 American Viewpoints 22:30
Press Conference USA 19:00 News 19:30
American Viewpoints 19:30 Special
English News and Features 20:00 News
21:00 Weekend 20:30 Magazine Show
21:50 News 22:10 Close-up 22:30
Special English News & Features 22:50
News 22:10 American Viewpoints 22:30
Press Conference USA 23:00 News and
Editorial 23:15 Music USA Jazz 24:00
News 01:00 Weekend

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition by Fekih Hama at the national art gallery (until July 10).
* Alan Mabey poster exhibition at the British Council (until July 8).
* A French exhibition entitled "La mode, les modes, la rue" at the French Cultural Centre (until July 24).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267
American Centre - Tel. 64371
American Centre Library - 641520
British Council - 6361478
French Cultural Centre - 637009
Goethe Institute - 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre - 642023
Spanish Cultural Centre - 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre - 639777
Hays Arts Centre - 661195
Hays Youth City - 6671816
Y.W.C.A. - 664251
American Municipal Library - 637111
University of Jordan Library - 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Cradle Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists.
Museum, Jabbal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630122.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916.
Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 646240.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every second and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the International Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, J. Amman, Elgish Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Amman, Tel. 624550.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)
Jabal Hinnin, Tel. 661737.
Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox)
Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer)
Jabal Amman, Tel. 678506.
Assiut Catholic Church
Abdali, Tel. 771331.
Assiut Orthodox Church
Abdali, Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox)
Abdali, Tel. 771751.
Assiut International Church (U.C. de-separational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeinel, Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Sami), Tel. 811235.
Babelow Congregation (International, interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 606974.

PRAYER TIMES

05:54 Fajr
05:55 Sunrise
06:00 Dhuhr
12:21 Asr
19:47 Maghrib
21:28 Isha

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia International department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 531005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:25 Belgrade (JL)
08:30 London, London (BA)
09:15 Athens (JL)
10:30 Cairo (JL)
10:30 Karachi, Pakistan (JL)
10:30 Doha (JL)
10:35 Damascus (JL)
11:15 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (R)
11:30 Baghdad (JL)
13:40 Bahrain (GF)
14:00 Cairo (MS)
14:35 New York, Vienna (R)
15:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:45 Moscow (R)
19:40 Copenhagen, Beirut (JL)
19:45 Cairo (JL)
19:50 Amsterdam, Damascus (JL)
19:55 Istanbul (JL)
20:10 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
20:15 Frankfurt, Damascus (JL)
21:30 Baghdad (JL)

DEPARTURES

04:15 Belgrade (JL)
04:20 Frankfurt (JL)
07:00 Athens (JL)
07:00 Moscow (R)
09:15 London, London (BA)
12:00 Vienna, New York (R)
12:45 Geneva, Madrid (JL)
13:00 Amman, 6th Circle (Rev. N. Sami), Tel. 811235.
13:15 Frankfurt, Munich (R)
13:30 Paris (R)
13:45 Rome (R)
13:45 Istanbul (JL)
14:00 Baghdad (JL)
14:30 Cairo (MS)
15:00 Beirut, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:30 Cairo (JL)
15:35 Kuwait (JL)
20:30 Kuwait (JL)
21:30 Jeddah (R)
21:30 Baghdad (JL)
22:15 Bahrain, Doha (JL)
22:15 Abu Dhabi (GF)
22:30 Cairo (MS)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular line ships docking at Aqaba port:
— Suez Wall Jackson
— RMS Jackson
Amin Kassar and Sons Company, Tel. 622324-9 at your service.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Thursday rate
Local currency rates in JLD
Belgian franc: 77.5/ 78.5
Dutch guilder: 141/ 142.5
French franc: 49.7/ 50.3
Italian lire: 23.1/ 23.4
Japanese yen (for 100): 213/ 215.6
Swedish crown: 48.9/ 49.3
Swiss franc: 195/ 197.5
U.S. sterling pound: 333.5/ 339.2
U.S. dollar: 345.2/ 348.2
W. German mark: 158.6/ 160.6

WEATHER

It will be fine, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.
Amman: 16/29
Aqaba: 22/25
Doha: 15/22
Jordan Valley: 21/35
Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman: 27, Aqaba: 34. Humidity readings: Amman 51 per cent, Aqaba 22 per cent.

EMERGENCIES

Amman government: 891228
Amman civil defence: 196, 199
Civil Defence Unit: 271293, 27131
Civil Defence Quarters: 770733
Civil Defence Car: 57306
Ambulance: 193, 77131
Amman downtown fire brigade: 158
First aid: 63612
Blood bank: 77803
Civil Defence rescue: 661111
Police headquarters: 622090-3
Police station: 192, 621111, 637777
Police barracks: 639141
Traffic police: 8963901
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints: 771258
Queen Alia Int. Airport: (08) 5330060

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre - 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Am. 644281/6
Akilieh Maternity, J. Amman 644242/2
Jabbal Amman Maternity - 642362
Maternity, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Maternity 664171/4
Shamsan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 843845/6
Al-Muhsen Hospital 667221/5
The Islamic, Akilieh 666127/57
Al-Ahli, Akilieh 664164/6
Tishan, Al-Muhsen 777101/3
Al-Samir, J. Amman 775111/26
Army, Marjeh 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 662240/50
Amal Hospital 674125

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Hadi Tayem 772435
Dr. Hisham Abu Anwar 895122
Fawzi pharmacy 661912
Al Salem pharmacy 639730
TAXIS:
Karak taxi 668761
Amman taxi 664660
Jordan taxi 842653
Queen taxi 643020
Nabati taxi 663003
Qatari taxi 630537
IZREH:
Dr. Yousef Ali 276315
ZARQA:
Dr. Ghassan Al Farajeh 964432

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 664176
Police complaints 661176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES			
Upper/lower price in JLD per kg.			
Apple	220/180	Lemon	220/180
Apple (green)	220/180	Lettuce (per one)	140/100
Apple (American & French)	420/380	Melons	160/120
Apples	300/250	Milk	70/40
Bananas	300/260	Molok (Sweet)	110/80
Bananas (Mekmum)	250/220	Onion (dry)	70/40
Beans	300/280	Okra	320/280
Carrots	70/40		
Carrot (yellow)	130/100	Orange (local and Valencia)	150/100
Cauliflower	120/80	Peas	70/40
Cherry	330/300	Peas (green)	480/400
Cucumber	150/100	Pepper (hot)	260/200
Eggplant (large)	110/80	Potatoes	260/200
Eggplant (small)	130/100	Potatoes	150/100
Figs	600/400	Radishes	110/70
Garlic	700/600	Tomatoes	150/100
Onions	250/220	Watermelon	100/80
Grapefruit	150/120	Wild melon	100/80

Fayez in Syria for talks on Arab reconciliation

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Akel Al Fayez is in Damascus on an official visit to Syria during which he will hold talks with his Syrian counterpart, Mahmoud Al Zuhairi, members of the Syrian People's Council. Mr. Fayez will also meet with an official Tunisian parliamentary delegation which is visiting Damascus.

During the visit, the three delegations will work out a programme for an Arab parliamentary committee which has been charged with ending differences among Arab countries and bolstering solidarity within the Arab Nation. The committee, which is chaired by Mr. Fayez and includes representatives from the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Tunisia, North Yemen, was set up by an Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting in Amman last March.

In addition to the committee's task, Mr. Fayez is expected to discuss parliamentary issues in the Arab World and means of unifying Arab countries' positions at international parliamentary conferences vis-a-vis Arab issues.

Jordan, Egypt hold talks on land-sea route operations

NABAT (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt have opened talks in Nabat to discuss the introduction of improved safety measures for passengers and cargo such as civil defence, rescue and health services.

Dr. Dajani, opening the talks, said that they represent a step in further boosting the route's operations through a revision of achievements and planning for the future. Mr. Mitwally described the operations along the route as "satisfactory and positive" and added that the results had exceeded expectations.

Planning Ministry starts survey on housing sector

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Planning has embarked on steps to draw up a national housing strategy in the Kingdom and has started by launching to assess the current housing situation.

A ministry spokesman said the survey, covering some 2,000 families and housing units around the country, is part of a plan to identify the factors which influence demand and supply in the housing sector.

The plan aims at formulating ideas for overcoming housing problems, prior to working out a strategy designed to provide proper housing facilities for all people, particularly for those with limited and low incomes, the spokesman said.

The survey process, the spokesman added, requires heads of families and owners of homes and buildings to fill out questionnaires, giving particulars about the houses they own or live as well as those in which they intend to live. The survey will also study the reasons for moving into new premises, the type of homes people prefer and the public services they are being offered in their homes.

The survey also aims at collecting information on the owners and the tenants of homes and also buildings which are not presently occupied in addition to the number of families covered by the survey, their income, trade or profession, the level of education of family members and whether their financial resources are sufficient for them to purchase their own homes.

Rawabdeh outlines municipal projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh said Friday that Amman Municipality seeks to provide its services fairly and to all citizens no matter where they live in and around Amman.

Mr. Rawabdeh said that Amman has been divided into nine areas for the purpose of providing services and he explained that each of these areas is divided into quarters. The objective behind this is to provide round the clock services to various parts and residential gatherings in Amman, the mayor continued.

Another major concern of Amman Municipality, said Mr. Rawabdeh, is to try and prevent any construction violations and an effort is being made to stop these violations by having municipality teams working for 24 hours. Mr. Rawabdeh pointed out that the municipality intends to raise the fine for violations from its current rate of 600 fils for each metre of construction to JD 24 for each metre in order to deter all violators.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that the two sides discussed the introduction of improved safety measures for passengers and cargo such as civil defence, rescue and health services.

Dr. Dajani, opening the talks, said that they represent a step in further boosting the route's operations through a revision of achievements and planning for the future. Mr. Mitwally described the operations along the route as "satisfactory and positive" and added that the results had exceeded expectations.

Discussing junction and intersection projects at the Ministry of Interior Circle and the Sports City both of which are currently under construction, Mr. Rawabdeh said work is progressing according to schedule and that Amman Municipality will give the contractors advanced payments in order to speed up work at the two projects with the aim of handing it over before the deadline. He voiced hope that the Amman municipality will receive it on the eve of Jordan's Independence Day, nearly two months before the due date.

Mr. Rawabdeh said that there are 44 such dangerous junctions in Amman but he noted that Amman Municipality can not build intersections at all these sites at the same time because of its limited financial resources. However, he added, the authority will utilise part of a World Bank loan for carrying out intersections one at a time.

Speaking about the measures taken so far by Amman Municipality to beautify the city, Mr. Rawabdeh said the municipality has focused its attention on the construction of fountains, boundary walls, and symbolic plates and statues. Mr. Rawabdeh said that they are working on developing the Amman yard or the Hashemite yard which stretches from the old building of Amman Municipality to the entrance of the Raghdan Royal Palace. This area, he said, will be converted into a gathering place and plaza while the Philadelphia Hotel was purchased by the municipality and was turned into a permanent exhibition for the works of Jordanian artists. The Hashemite court will be known as Amman Plaza or Amman Forum, he said. The project has been referred to a contractor for the amount of JD 250,000 and will be completed in four months, the mayor continued.

Speaking about public gardens, Mr. Rawabdeh said Amman Municipality has so far constructed 28 gardens and will continue to build gardens in all parts of Amman.



Her Majesty Queen Noor chats with a patient at the Zarga Government Hospital during an inspection visit the Queen made to the hospital on Thursday (Petra photo)

Queen Noor inspects medical services at Zarga hospital, Naser health clinic

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday made inspection visits to the Government Hospital in Zarga and the health centre at Naser in the eastern districts of Amman where she met with officials and patients and was briefed on the health services offered to the public in these regions.

The Queen first called at the Zarga hospital where she met with its director, members of staff and nurses who briefed Queen Noor on the hospital's various activities and its services to patients. The

Queen later toured the intensive care unit and the newly-installed incubators and examined the modern equipment being used in the departments. Queen Noor also met with patients and enquired after their condition.

Last year the hospital offered treatment to 162,508 patients and carried out 4,413 surgical operations and 5,830 deliveries, the Queen was told during her inspection tour. The Zarga hospital offers services to nearly half a million inhabitants in the

Zarga district.

At Al Naser the Queen toured the mother and child care section, the laboratory and the X-ray units as well as the other facilities at the clinic. The Queen heard a briefing on the centres services which are provided to approximately 125,000 inhabitants in Al Naser district. The centre was built on a four-dunum area of land donated by Amman Municipality. Accompanying the Queen on her tour was Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh.

Government offers facilities for importers to buy U.S. goods

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Planning has announced new measures intended to encourage the private sector to benefit from a Jordanian-U.S. agreement on purchasing commodities and services worth \$160 million from the United States.

A spokesman for the ministry said that private sector merchants and importers are now being offered three years to pay for imported primary goods and raw materials used in industry and up to five years for capital commodities.

The importers have to pay 6.25 to 10.5 per cent interest on credit accounts offered to them by local banks for financing the transactions, the spokesman pointed out.

He said that Jordanian importers can alternatively settle the payment in full against bills of lading and in Jordanian dinars based on the lowest exchange rate as issued by the Central Bank of Jordan upon the date of opening the letter of credit and receiving the bills of lading.

Parliamentary secretary general addresses IPU symposium

GENEVA (Petra) — Secretary general of the Jordanian Houses of Parliament Hani Khair was one of the speakers at a symposium held Thursday at the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) head offices in Geneva. The meeting was attended by members of the foreign committee at the Swiss parliament and representatives of the United Nations.

Mr. Khair reviewed the activities and achievements of the Arab Parliamentary Union and its role in strengthening relations among Arab, African and European parliamentarians. Mr. Khair affirmed His Majesty King Hussein's keenness on safeguarding parliamentary life in Jordan and said that the Jordanian people have welcomed the return of parliamentary life with deep appreciation to the King.

Pakistani team shows interest in purchasing cement, goods

AMMAN (J.T.) — Pakistan has expressed its desire to import Jordanian cement and industrial commodities and has also indicated willingness to launch joint ventures with Jordan.

Visiting Pakistani Minister of Finance Islamuddin Sheikh presented his country's views during a meeting he held here Thursday with Finance Minister Hamza Odeh.

A statement by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that both sides agreed that there is great potential for developing and expanding bilateral cooperation in economic, trade and cultural fields and to carry out fertilizer projects utilising Jordanian phosphates.

Petra said the two sides decided to set up a joint technical committee to conduct a study on these projects and to submit recommendations to the concerned parties in both countries.

Jordanian-Pakistani trade relations date back to 1965 when both sides signed an agreement aimed at increasing the volume of trade between them. This was followed by a memorandum of understanding signed in 1975 and a subsequent joint meeting which decided on the establishment of joint companies and the formation of a joint chamber of industry and trade.

The Pakistani delegation arrived here on Wednesday for a week-long visit to Jordan.

ARC signs purchase deal for 90 wagons to transport phosphates

AMMAN (Petra) — The Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC) has taken steps to raise the amount of phosphates it transports to Aqaba for export from three to 4.5 million tonnes annually by the year 1990.

According to Mr. Mardi Qattamin, ARC director, the amount of phosphates transported by the ARC are expected to increase once the corporation has taken delivery of an additional 90 wagons to be used for transporting the rock to the port city.

The new trucks will be supplied by a South Korean company, Samsung, which signed the deal with the ARC on Thursday. Under the JD 1.6 million contract, the South Korean company will manufacture and deliver the 90 trucks in 10 months from now, thus raising the total number of trucks owned by the ARC to 380.

Mr. Qattamin said that the phosphates are presently being transported by means of 29 wagons which deliver the phosphates from the mines in southern Jordan to Aqaba.

The decision to purchase the South Korean trucks was taken upon the recommendations of an ARC technical team which visited Seoul last year and inspected South Korean manufacturing plants, Mr. Qattamin said.

The purchase of the new wagons, he said, is part of a comprehensive plan to promote phosphate exports and will be implemented hand in hand with a scheme to renovate and expand the existing railway from Ma'an to Aqaba, a distance of 180 kilometres, and to set up workshops in Aqaba to be used for railway maintenance.

The Aqaba railway line was established 10 years ago for the

purpose of transporting phosphates from the mines to Aqaba, but the rapid increase in production means that the present transportation system is inadequate. Mr. Qattamin pointed out. He said for this reason the ARC took a decision in 1977 to replace the railway line and to introduce other improvements in three stages. The first of these three stages, he continued, entails replacing a 64 kilometre stretch of the old line, extending from Ma'an to Batn Al Ghoul, with a new line, a JD 6 million project which is due to be completed by the end of next month.

Stage two

The second stage entails replacing a 116 kilometre length of rail extending between Bam Al Ghoul and Aqaba, and an agreement has been signed with the World Bank to extend a loan of \$20 million to the ARC to implement the project by early next year, Mr. Qattamin said. He went on to say the third stage entails replacing the remaining 85 kilometre stretch of the line, a project to be integrated with a national plan for a wide gauge line and which is now under government consideration.

Mr. Qattamin said that a tender for the Aqaba workshops will soon be announced because the existing workshops at Ma'an cannot cope with the increasing amount of work.



FLYING STOPOVER — As part of a journey around the world aboard a one-engine microlight shadow B plane, British pilot Eve Jackson arrived in Amman on Friday for a several-day visit during which she will visit a number of tourist and archaeological sites in Jordan. Miss Jackson, who obtained her pilot's licence three years ago, started her journey around the world from Britain on April 26 in her plane, which weighs 160 kilograms and flies at a speed of 65 miles per hour. Miss Jackson was received upon arrival at the Amman military airport by commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and a number of senior officers. After her visit to Amman, Miss Jackson will be visiting Saudi Arabia, the Gulf, India and Australia.

ACO director sends cables of thanks to King, Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) Taleb Al Taher Thursday sent cables of thanks and gratitude to His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

In his cable to King Hussein, Mr. Taher expressed appreciation and gratitude to King Hussein and the Jordanian government for the support they extend to the organisation's activities and for hosting the ACO's preparatory meeting which concluded in Amman on Thursday.

In his cable to the prime minister, Mr. Taher voiced appreciation and gratitude to the Jordanian government and wished the Jordanian people every progress and prosperity under the leadership of King Hussein.

The ACO concluded its three-day preparatory meetings after discussing executive procedures for holding a symposium on a comprehensive plan for architecture, due to be held in the Moroccan city of Fez in the autumn of 1987. The symposium will focus on means to preserve the identity of Arab and Islamic architecture.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet okays accord with UAE

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Thursday endorsed an executive programme on cultural cooperation for the years 1986-88 concluded recently between Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. The programme determines bases for bilateral cooperation between the countries in the fields of education, information and social development. A similar programme between Jordan and Italy has also been approved by the cabinet.

Saudi medical team arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Director of medical services of the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces Major General Abdul Hameed Fra'edhi arrived in Amman on Thursday leading a medical delegation on a several day visit to Amman. Maj. Gen. Fra'edhi and the accompanying delegation will be visiting a number of hospitals and medical centres run by the Jordanian Armed Forces and a number of cultural and historical sites in the Kingdom.

Ministry plans technical training centres

AMMAN (Petra) — The establishment of training centres to teach technicians how to repair equipment and appliances used in hospitals and health centres in Jordan was the subject of discussion during a meeting held Thursday at the Ministry of Planning between representatives of the health sector in the country and a delegation from the West German Agency for Technical Cooperation. The German government will contribute towards establishing this centre as part of its technical aid to Jordan. The centre, to be based in Amman, will accommodate 60 students during the next year for a training period of three years.

Man electrocuted while shaving

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 43-year-old man, Hussein Awwad, from the Palestinian refugee camp of Irbid died when he was electrocuted while shaving with an electric razor, according to a report in the Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper. The report said that the police were called in and are investigating the incident.

TWO DELUXE FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT

First - 3 bedrooms, three bathrooms, sitting room, salon and dining room.
Second - 4 bedrooms, sitting room, dining room, one bathroom.
Both houses have separate entrances, each with telephone, new kitchen, colour TV, all electrical appliances and central heating.
Location: S. Mezan.
For information, please call 667727 from 8 a.m. till 6 p.m.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Good location near 7th Circle, Jabal Amman, Um Uthaina. Consists of two bedrooms, sitting room, salon and dining room, kitchen, 2 baths, balcony, with central heating and telephone.
Yearly rent JD 2000 only
Call 812032

Randa Beauty Centre hosts skincare specialist

Esthetic surgeon Dr. Vidal, inventor of the superpeeling process against acne, black heads and early wrinkles, now used in 60 centres all over the world will hold treatment sessions at Randa Beauty Centre. Tel: 688501, on Saturday 5/7 and Sunday 6/7 from 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Vidal is president of the Academia d'Esthetique de Paris and former president of CIDESCO.

VILLA FOR SALE

Consisting of six bedrooms, five bathrooms, large salons, modern kitchen, two maid's rooms, big garden, automatic controlled garage.
Pls. call 804169

ARAMEX AIR CARGO

SA MGA PILIPINO SA JORDAN
MAGANDANG BALITA! MAGMULA PO NGAYON, IKA-1 NG HULYO 1986, ANG ARAMEX INT'L COURIER AY MAGBUBUKAS NG REGULAR AT MABILISANG SERBISYO PARA SA INYONG MGA PARSEL AT KARGO, NA IPAPADALA SA MANILA, LUZON, VISAYAS AT MINDANAO (PHILIPPINES).

SA NAKAPAKA BABANG HALAGA ANG INYONG PARSEL O KARGO AY GINAGARANTYAHAN NAMIN NA MAIDILIVER SA LOOB PO NAMANG NG 72 ORAS.

DALHIN PO NAMANG DITO SA AMING OPISINA ANG INYONG MGA IPINAGMAMADALING DUKOMENTO PARSEL, REGALO, O MGA PERSONAL NA GAMIT, AT HAYANAN PO NATING MAGING TUNGKULIN NG AMING AHENTE SA MANILA NA DALHIN ITO SA KINAUKULAN ANO MANG ORAS.

ANG AMIN PONG OPISINA AY NAKALIKOD NG HOLIDAY INN HOTEL.

PARA SA INYONG INFORMASYON ANG AMING TEL NO. 673978/603192

SUMMER COURSE 1986

Dates: July 12 - August 13th 1986

- COURSES
- Adults
- 17 years and above - afternoons only
- JUNIOR SUMMER SCHOOL
- Teenagers 13-16 years - mornings only
- Supplementary activities
- games
- conversation

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Jordan's commitment

KING Hussein in his candid manner and brave and responsible stand presented the facts about the situation in the Arab-Israeli conflict before the higher committee for the affairs of the occupied Arab land. The King spoke of the social, economic and humanitarian situation inside the Israel-held territory and the problems and the difficult living conditions of the Palestinian people under occupation. The King also pointed to the responsibilities of Jordan vis-a-vis this situation and its continued and relentless efforts to help support the steadfastness of the Palestinians. The committee members have been provided with a clearer picture of the situation which helped them to conduct a serious discussion that led to the adoption of a number of recommendations and practical steps in this respect. Needless to say that this meeting and briefing represent a true manifestation of Jordanian commitment towards the Arab causes in general and the Palestine problem in particular, and also underline the fact that Jordan will continue to extend all possible help to the brothers now under Israeli rule.

Al Dustour: Jordan's support for Palestinians

THE higher committee for the occupied territories affairs which met under the chairmanship of King Hussein reflected Jordan's national orientation and a clear show of support for the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. The committee examined measures that could be taken for protecting the Palestinian people, their land and their future, a practice which Jordan has conducted ever since the 1967 occupation of the West Bank. Jordan realises the full responsibility it shoulders towards the Palestinian people and the consequences of the Israeli occupation, and the dangers inherent in it. For that reason Jordan has prepared a five-year plan for the development of the West Bank to help the Palestinian people resist Israel's drive to evict them from their homes. Jordan has been committed to help the Palestinians because they are brothers, and theirs is an Arab land. No doubt: King Hussein who has been advocating the cause of the Palestinian people will pursue all efforts to see an end to Israeli occupation, and will continue to extend help to his brothers to preserve their Arab identity and to stand fast in the face of Israel's conspiracies.

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Jordan rallies Arabs

DESPITE Israel's plans to freeze the Palestine problem, and despite the unfavourable Arab situation, Jordan has not spared any time in pursuing efforts aimed at rallying Arab countries together for confronting the common challenges and dangers. This Jordanian stand was manifested on numerous occasions through King Hussein's relentless endeavours, the last of which took place on the local and international scenes over the past few weeks. Jordan has also been raising the Palestine question with prominent visitors to the country to help achieve a lasting peace, and has at the same time been supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people under occupation with all possible means. On the Arab scene, Jordan has not ceased its drive to urge Arabs to consolidate their solidarity and unify their ranks in the face of the looming dangers. In response, we expect positive stands on the part of other Arab states to support Jordan's endeavours and force Israel to give up its aggressive policies and recognise the rights of the Palestinian people.

Al Dustour: Lebanese demonstrate unity

FOR the first time since the outbreak of the civil war in Lebanon the people of that country Thursday took a unanimous decision and declared a general strike. The strike demonstrated the people's total rejection of the continued deterioration of the economic and security situation in the embattled country, and a clear call for peace that had eluded the Lebanese for nearly 12 years. All the Lebanese factions and sects were in agreement when they staged the one-day strike, because all groups now seem bent on taking steps to end the conflict and live in peace. All the Lebanese have now come to realise that the continued war would only cause more disasters and more bloodshed without achieving any objective for any party. The strike was a brave show of defiance to the acts of violence and the destruction, but such strike is a passive show of discontent about the situation in Lebanon. What is required now is another and more meaningful step — unity to achieve reconciliation and to abort the plots of the warlords and the selfish desires of the elements of evil. The Lebanese should now work together to achieve a comprehensive peace, a bid that should be supported by all Arab countries.

Sawt Al Shaab: Kuwait faces the challenge

ALTHOUGH we regard the events in Kuwait as an internal affair, the recent political developments are an indicator of the general situation prevailing in the Arab World. The Kuwaiti people have been enjoying democracy and democratic rule ever since independence, and their leaders have been able to realise many achievements for the country, making it a model example for the Gulf region. But this successful experiment had been the target of the enemies of Kuwait and the Arab Nation. They started launching attacks and hatching plots and conspiracies against the Kuwaiti people and its democratic system with the aim of undermining its national unity. What the Kuwaitis have been exposed to is part of a larger conspiracy: directed against the Arabs in general, designed to divert attention from the real dangers that confront the nation. These conspiracy, like those that have been hatched against Lebanon, should be nipped in the bud before being able to take root inside Kuwait.

Come To Think Of It

Some read It backwards

By Ibrahim Abu Nab

ONE may expect to read some curious articles in the press sometimes by some chicken-growers against chicken-growing, or by some producers of eggs against egg production, but not by educators against education. That stands no longer, it seems, because the article I am about to deal with is by an "educator" and it is, as I see it, against education.

That is alarming. It should provoke us to reexamine our educators or our education, or generally examine ourselves. Starting with the educators, my protagonist is a Ph.D. who, as he says, has been participating in discussions at prestigious fora on the subject of the newly-approved idea of a private university. He says he still has strong reservations against such a university even though he can see its merits.

The only trouble of it is that the merits which this gentleman could see, and goes on to enumerate, are not really the kind of merits which one could be proud of or could intellectually appreciate. For the

proposed university, according to him, can increase the percentage of university graduates in the country. (No kidding!). It can absorb a large number of the secondary school graduates who would otherwise be deprived of higher education at home (Is not that saying the obvious?). It can help Jordan catch up with the developed countries. (Would it though). And it can provide the private sector with an outlet for investment and reduce the national deficit (What about the national debt and balancing the budget?).

But having sung all the superfluous praises, as above, to the proposed privately-owned university, my protagonist then makes a complete turn around and goes on to clobber the idea as a possible threat to the "high standards of excellence" of the state universities. This is in spite of the fact that he sees higher education on the whole as no more than a form of hidden unemployment. "We need now", he declares, "and we shall need in

the future more manual workers and farm hands than university graduates. For we have in Jordan a hundred and fifty thousand foreign workers who send out of the country more than a hundred million Jordanian dinars every year in hard currency." So we should save the money and produce our own workers!

It does not seem to occur to my esteemed friend that higher education, hidden unemployment and foreign workers could be three separate items in a discussion and that private education could be a topic all unto itself. "The private university," he says, "can become so fully commercial as have many junior colleges that it can become a liability rather than an asset to education." Apparently he has no idea about how state authorities can control the standards of an institution without actually owning it.

The said educator sees the proposed university not only as a threat to the so-called high standards of education, but also as

an easy way out of the problem of too many secondary school graduates. The problem, he adds, should be dealt with not at university level but in the elementary school and the secondary school. The development of students should be arrested somewhere along the road, and most of them should be sent to the workers' pools.

Honest to God, that is how one of our esteemed educators thinks. It may be time to reexamine the kind of educational system which such educators have developed and perpetuated. For why should they feel so threatened by the idea of a privately-owned university? Are they trying to arrest the possible privatisation of higher education?

This writer had long argued for the freedom of education, the freedom of experimentation in education and for an educational system which is all our own and which can meet our spiritual and material needs. I have failed to engage the officialdom in any meaningful dialogue because the

officials saw no need to argue about something which was all their own and fully in their hands. One could not argue with a school headmistress about how his or her son or daughter should be brought up. I have argued for a Jordanian school which is not an imitation of schools in other countries but which would reflect our values and our needs. Now we are up against the question of what kind of a university we need.

We seem to forget that higher education is not new to us, we Arabs. When we were building universities, Europe was still groping in the dark. Europeans came to Andalusia to study at our universities. The mark of Muslim education was to seek the truth and to reconcile the ideal and the real. The educational process is not confined to a certain age in life but is a life-long process, from the cradle to the grave. Learning is not to be for the sake of a certificate or a job, but for the betterment of one's soul and for the sake of drawing nearer to the Creator. "Among God's creatures, only

those who are most learned fear Him most."

Learning in our culture is not a matter of business and prestige but a part of worship. The free flow of knowledge from the older generation to the younger one and the interaction between the human society and its environment in a peaceful and productive manner is part and parcel of the educational process. It does not matter therefore who owns the educational institution or who sets it up so long as its devotion to learning is true and real. Nothing is more harmful to the spirit and the nation than to distort human nature through the distortion of education.

Cairo's Al-Azhar University could not have survived for a thousand years without people setting up trust funds for education. Educational institutions should not, in our culture, be allowed to become pure business. When we look at education in a purely functional and economic way, then it is time to ask: Are we still ourselves?

The future of Zionism: Ending the cycle of violence

By Christopher Mayhew

This is the first of two extensive extracts from an address by Lord Mayhew delivered in London on 3 June.

IT IS now four years since the invasion of Lebanon — the greatest of Israel's crimes, and by far the steepest and cruelest upward twist in the cycle of violence in the Middle East. There are those who draw a moral distinction between Israeli and American acts of violence, which are presented simply as security operations, and Palestinian and Arab violence which is presented as terrorism. Last month the British prime minister, Mrs. Thatcher, said in the House of Commons: "It has not been so much a cycle of violence as a one-sided campaign of killing and maiming by ruthless terrorists."

Arab civilians, men, women and children.

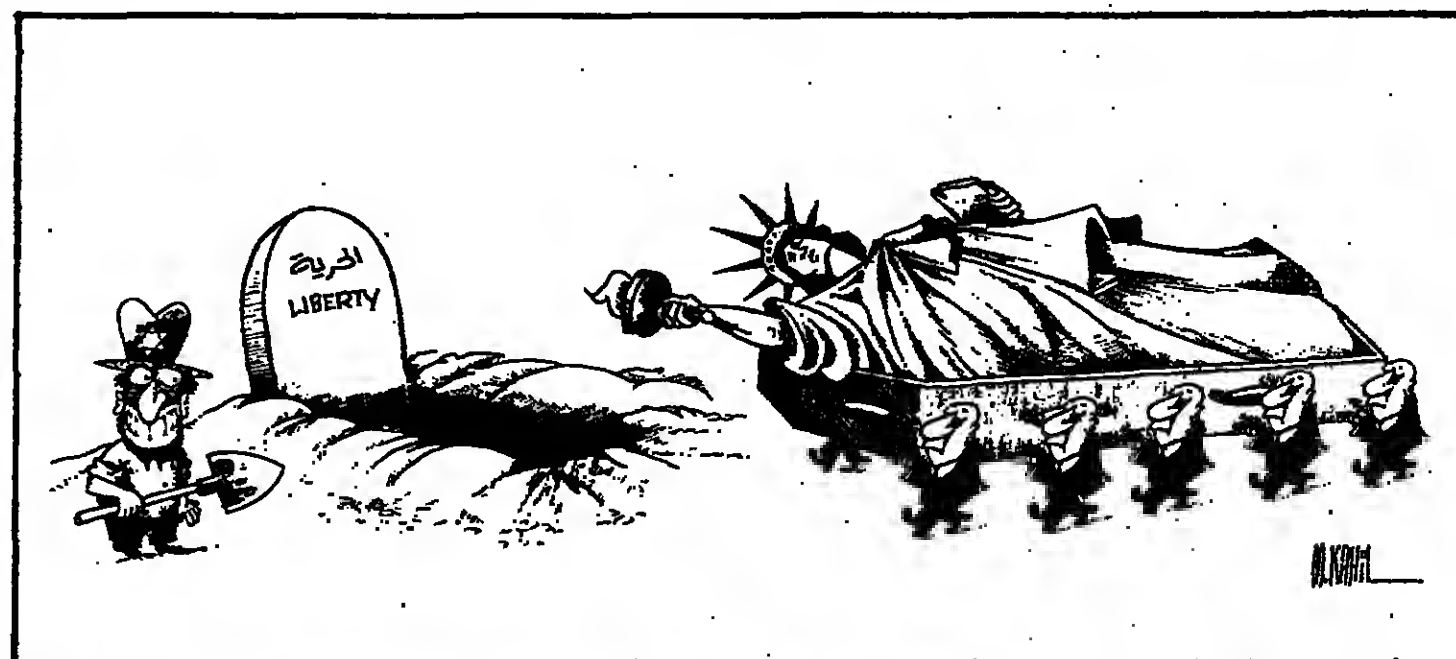
Mrs. Thatcher's statement also suggested that the killing and maiming has been one-sided. Yet since 1945 there have been far more Arab victims of Israeli terrorism than the other way round. Indeed, if you include — and why not? — the massacres at Shatila and Sabra and the bombing of Beirut, the number of Arab victims of Israeli terrorism is more than a hundred times greater than the number of Israeli or Western victims of Arab terrorism.

It is argued that at least the Arabs started the current cycle of violence and are keeping it going. But they did not start it. In modern times, the Stern gang and the Irgun started it. That terrorism

Since 1945 there have been far more Arab victims of Israeli terrorism than the other way around.

This is absurdly one-sided. The cycle of violence is plain for all to see. In the Middle East we are not presented by a struggle between terrorism and anti-terrorism but between reprisals and counter-reprisals. The killing of the British hostages in Lebanon was provoked by the killing by Americans of civilians in Libya, which was itself provoked by the killing by Arabs of civilians in Berlin and on the cruise liner Achille Lauro, which was itself provoked by the killing by Israel of 60 civilians in Tunis. And so it goes on, back and back, until we reach the worst outcome of all, the killing by Israel of over 20,000 civilians in Lebanon. And of course the cycle of retaliation goes back still further. One of the earliest and worst acts of Palestinian terrorism, at Maslout in Israel, was largely an act of revenge. The Palestinians were shouting as they fought "Deir Yassin." They saw themselves as avenging the massacre by Begin at the village of Deir Yassin of 259

was not retaliatory. The blowing up of the King David Hotel and similar outrages were directed to driving out the British, and Deir Yassin and similar outrages were directed to driving out the Palestinians. This terrorist campaign, unlike others which followed it, succeeded in its immediate aim, but inevitably in due course helped to provoke Arab retaliation. After my first visit to an Arab refugee camp in 1953, I reported: "They said 'What were we British doing apart from talking? Did I not realise that it was we who were responsible for the Jews taking their land? What crime had they and their children committed that they should be driven from their homes and robbed of all their possessions?'" My report ended: "I saw proud innocent people subjected to intolerable humiliation and misery. I saw the refugee camps, not merely as relics of a past war but as seeds of future vengeance." This was then, and still is the heart of the



Palestinian problem. There will be no peace in the Middle East until justice is done to the Palestinian people.

It will be argued that at least it is the Arabs who are now keeping the cycle of violence going. Certainly, Israel would like to see it end; certainly the Israelis want peace. But they also want the West Bank and Gaza, which belong to the Palestinians; they want Golan, which belongs to Syria; and they want control of South Lebanon, which by rights belongs to the Lebanese people. They want control of the whole of Jerusalem, which by rights should belong to three religions and should also be shared between the Israelis and the Palestinians. No country which occupies large part of its neighbours' territories and oppresses and discriminates against the local inhabitants, can expect to live in peace, or indeed deserves to do so.

How then will the cycle of violence end? For nearly 20 years, a compromise settlement has been available, on paper. There could be mutual and simultaneous

recognition by Israel and the PLO. Palestine could be shared. There could be an Arab Palestine and a Jewish Palestine. This is what the outside world wants, and rightly. But in the late 60s and early 70s, this compromise was rejected by both sides; and since then it has been rejected, with increasing stubbornness, by Israel. Israel has increasingly asserted its rule over the whole of Palestine, repeatedly rejecting the concept of Palestinian self-determination, on which, quite rightly, the Palestinians will not compromise. East Jerusalem has been formally annexed and Jewish settlements established on the West Bank, in Gaza and Golan. Meantime mutual fear and hatred has increased, so that today, an agreed settlement seems further away than ever before. Indeed it is hard to view it now as a realistic possibility.

So what will happen? At first sight, the answer seems obvious. The outcome will be settled by Israel's military superiority, and an independent Jewish state controlling all of Palestine is

assured for an indefinite period. Israel's armed forces, although far less in numbers, are more sophisticated, more combat-trained and more powerful than the combined power of its neighbours, even assuming that they were ever to combine. Moreover Israel is still the only country in the Middle East with access to nuclear weapons. Nor can there be any doubt that if the Israelis found themselves in military difficulties, the armed forces of the United States would be deployed to help them out. Any idea that the Israelis can one day be driven into the sea by outright Arab military victory is an illusion. On the contrary, the Arab World faces the possibility of further Israeli military incursions, for example an American supported attack on Syria.

A second major source of strength to Israel is the disunity among its enemies. Two of the largest hostile countries are engaged in a bitter and bloody war against each other. Iran has been supported by three Arab states;

Iraq is supported, with varying degrees of discretion, by most of the rest of the Arab world. Some Arab states support in principle the idea of a compromise peace settlement with Israel. Others not only bitterly oppose this principle, but have facilitated the assassination of fellow Arabs who have supported it. One is reminded strongly of the disastrous divisions in the Muslim camp at the time of the Crusades. In his history of the Crusades, Antony Bridge wrote: "The Muslims began to realise that if they were to regain the lands they had lost, they would have to patch up their quarrels and unite to do so." That was 800 years ago; it is just as true today. We can safely predict that if the Palestinians and the Arab states remain as disunited as they are today, there will be no turning of the tide against the Zionist state. An independent Jewish state, occupying the West Bank and Gaza and the whole of Jerusalem will become a permanent feature of the Middle East — Middle East International, London.

Rau promises changes in Bonn foreign policy if he wins

By Mark Wood

Reuter

BONN — Spurred by a steady opposition advance in regional elections, Johannes Rau is already planning his strategy as next West German chancellor and promises some major shifts in Bonn's foreign policy if elected.

A more critical attitude to Washington, greater German involvement in East-West affairs and a bid to forge a new Franco-German-British entente would all be hallmarks of a new Social Democratic (SPD) administration under Rau. "When Willy Brandt and Helmut Schmidt (both Social Democrats) were chancellors we were more visible in the world scene, we had much more weight. That is what I want to get back to," the SPD challenger told Reuters in an interview.

But first he has to unseat Chancellor Helmut Kohl's centre-right coalition in national elections next January, and though most German poll analysts believe Rau will pose a serious threat, few share his confidence that he will make it.

The SPD has taken votes from Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) in six successive state elections and opinion surveys consistently rate Rau, 55, more popular than the chancellor.

But they also predict he will fall short of his aim of gaining the SPD's first ever absolute majority and most say the CDU and their liberal Free Democrat (FDP) allies will return to power for another four years in the January 25 vote.

Rau who was chosen by the

SPD last year to challenge Kohl, has his own calculations on the election outcome and said the steady swing to the SPD would carry him into office.

"You must not assume we need 50 per cent of the vote to get an outright majority," he said.

He forecast that both the radical Greens, whose popularity appears to have faltered, and the FDP could fall beneath the five per cent of the vote needed to gain entry to the Bundestag (parliament), leaving only the two major parties with seats.

Most polls show the SPD and CDU running neck-and-neck at present and according to Rau's mathematics his party need only add one or two per cent to its support to secure power.

The CDU scorns his predictions and has reacted to the SPD challenge with dire warnings of "red-green chaos" if Kohl is ousted, saying Rau would inevitably have to depend on support from the radical anti-nuclear Greens to form a government.

Western diplomats in Bonn say Washington and other allies, alarmed by the anti-NATO polemics of some SPD left-wingers, would also view a Social Democrat victory with concern, even if they regard Rau himself as a loyal ally.

The mild-mannered challenger, a man in the same moderate political mould as Helmut Schmidt, finds the premonitions of domestic chaos and German-American clashes over-dramatic and unjustified.

"I am not going to cooperate with the Greens in any way, come

what may. I will go into the election with a commitment on that score," he said.

Rau, who is premier of North Rhine-Westphalia, the biggest German state, promises abolition of new strike laws passed by Kohl and the start of a gradual withdrawal from nuclear power as the most radical elements in his domestic programme.

But in foreign policy terms he

makes clear an SPD government would be a much less comfortable partner for the Americans than Kohl and would aim to amplify the voice of the Europeans within NATO on key arms control issues.

"I will never use unfriendly formulations towards Washington, but I will be open. I think it is time for a new dialogue with the Americans," he said.

Rau would cancel a West

German accord on involvement in President Reagan's "Star Wars" research and reconsider Bonn's approval for the production of new U.S. chemical weapons.

Rau, known for his full-blooded commitment to NATO, struck a good rapport with Reagan on a visit last year and believes Washington will accept divergent views on arms from its allies.

But one senior NATO diplomat

in Bonn said Rau's policies would inevitably arouse ire among hardliners in the Reagan administration.

Rau said he had no intention of becoming mediator between Washington and Moscow. But he would seek a broader dialogue with the Soviets and would actively try to prompt progress towards new arms agreements wherever possible.

Austrians take to new 'pin-striped' Socialist chancellor

By David Lewis

Reuter

VIENNA — Austrians are taking to their pin-striped Socialist chancellor, former finance minister Franz Vranitzky sworn in just over two weeks ago.

Quick-witted and businesslike, he has given a smart new face to the ruling Socialist Party (SPOE) that is proving more popular than it dared hope.

"There is a sigh of relief in the Socialist party," the mass-circulation conservative Kronenzeitung said last Friday.

The telegenic Vranitzky, 48, succeeded Fred Sinowatz, who resigned after former U.N. chief Kurt Waldheim — backed by the conservative opposition People's Party (OEPV) — won a clear victory in presidential elections on June 8.

Sinowatz regarded Waldheim's win as a major defeat for his government and threw in the towel as chancellor (though not as SPOE leader) in the hope that Vranitzky could ward off a disaster in parliamentary elections due by next April.

Most commentators gave Vranitzky no chance. He was, some said, a "transition chancellor" or "chancellor of defeat," filling in time before becoming president of the National Bank. One editor said the "pin-striped chancellor" was on a "suicide mission."

The SPOE has ruled in coalition with the small Freedom Party (FPÖ) since losing its overall majority in 1983, and its popularity has been eroded by a series of scandals and poor results in state industry over recent months.

A wave of support for Waldheim, who campaigned successfully with promises of a change of course in Austrian politics, seemed to prestage an inevitable drubbing for the SPOE in April.

But while previous surveys had shown voters preferring OEPV leader Alois Mock to Sinowatz, an opinion poll published two weeks ago showed Vranitzky leading Mock by 40 to 26 per cent. With women he was 18 points and among young people 31 points ahead.

Ernst Gëhnbacher, chief of the SPOE-leaning IFES institute which conducted the poll of 500 people, commented to the conservative mass-circulation daily Kronenzeitung:

"On television Vranitzky does not come over as a doctor, a banker or a party apparatchik. With his boyish face he looks as relaxed as a sportsman. And on top of that he is good-looking."

Married with a daughter of 20 and a son of 16, Vranitzky did in fact play for Austria's national basketball team.

Vranitzky's rise from relatively humble Viennese origins was aided by his friend Hannes Androsch, who moved to head the Creditanstalt banking group, Austria's largest bank, after being finance minister.

Androsch employed Vranitzky as his adviser at the finance ministry from 1970-76 after Vranitzky, who has a doctorate in international trade, has been at the National Bank since 1961.

Vranitzky was deputy head of Creditanstalt from 1976 to 1981, and chief of the country's second biggest bank, Laenderbank, from

1981 until 1984, when he became finance minister.

Speaking to foreign journalists in the wine-making village of Rust last weekend, Vranitzky admitted his personal career plan had not included a spell as chancellor.

But he had agreed because the party thought he had a chance to win back majority support in the country. That he had become chancellor without ever standing for popular election might seem strange to some, he said, but it was constitutional.

Asked if he would dare to push through measures regarded as necessary to nationalise Austrian state industries — measures liable to be electorally unpopular among traditional SPOE supporters — Vranitzky said this was the only option.

"Do you think people would applaud us if we did nothing because of the election?" he asked. "Certainly not."

Reduction of Austria's budget deficit and resolution of "deep structural problems" in industry would be painful and was not to be solved with Johann Strauss music," he added.

Space explorers soon may live in self-sustaining biospheres

By Mercer Cross
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Humans will be exploring Mars in the next few decades, many scientists predict. Such optimism will gain momentum from the presidentially appointed National Commission on Space, which will soon issue its report on the country's next 50 years of space activities. Manned exploration of the moon and Mars early in the next century is expected to figure prominently in the report.

Once they've arrived on the moon, Mars, or some other celestial body, the explorers will need a place to stay. A critical component of space colonization, as the report will note, will be biospheres — greenhouse-like self-sustaining ecological systems independent of Earth.

Moving toward reality

A prototype biosphere, large enough to provide a home away from home for eight persons, or "biospherians," is already moving toward reality at a 2,500-acre facility called the SunSpace Ranch Conference Centre in Santa Catalina Mountains near Oracle, Ariz., 30 miles north of Tucson.

Biosphere II is the name of the \$30 million, seven-year project. It is being developed by a private company, Space Biospheres Ventures, which has assembled a widely-scattered team of scientists, architects, and planners.

By early 1989, the builders should be ready to "have the biospherians go in and close the door" for a two-year stay in their diverse new environment, says Carl N. Hodges, director of the Environmental Research Laboratory at the University of Arizona, one of the project's chief contractors.

Canadian Margaret Augustine is the project director and co-architect of Biosphere II,

which is now in the design stage. In a presentation to the National Space Commission last November, she described the components of the closed structure.

Within its slightly more than two acres — 90,300 square feet, 3 million cubic feet — the prototype will house seven major ecosystems: intensive agricultural systems, a human habitat, and marine, marsh, savannah, desert, and jungle biomes.

In the project's second year, numerous experiments are under way. At the SunSpace Centre, a great range of plants from all over the world is being grown in a 17,000-square-foot greenhouse. In another building, tissue cultures are being developed.

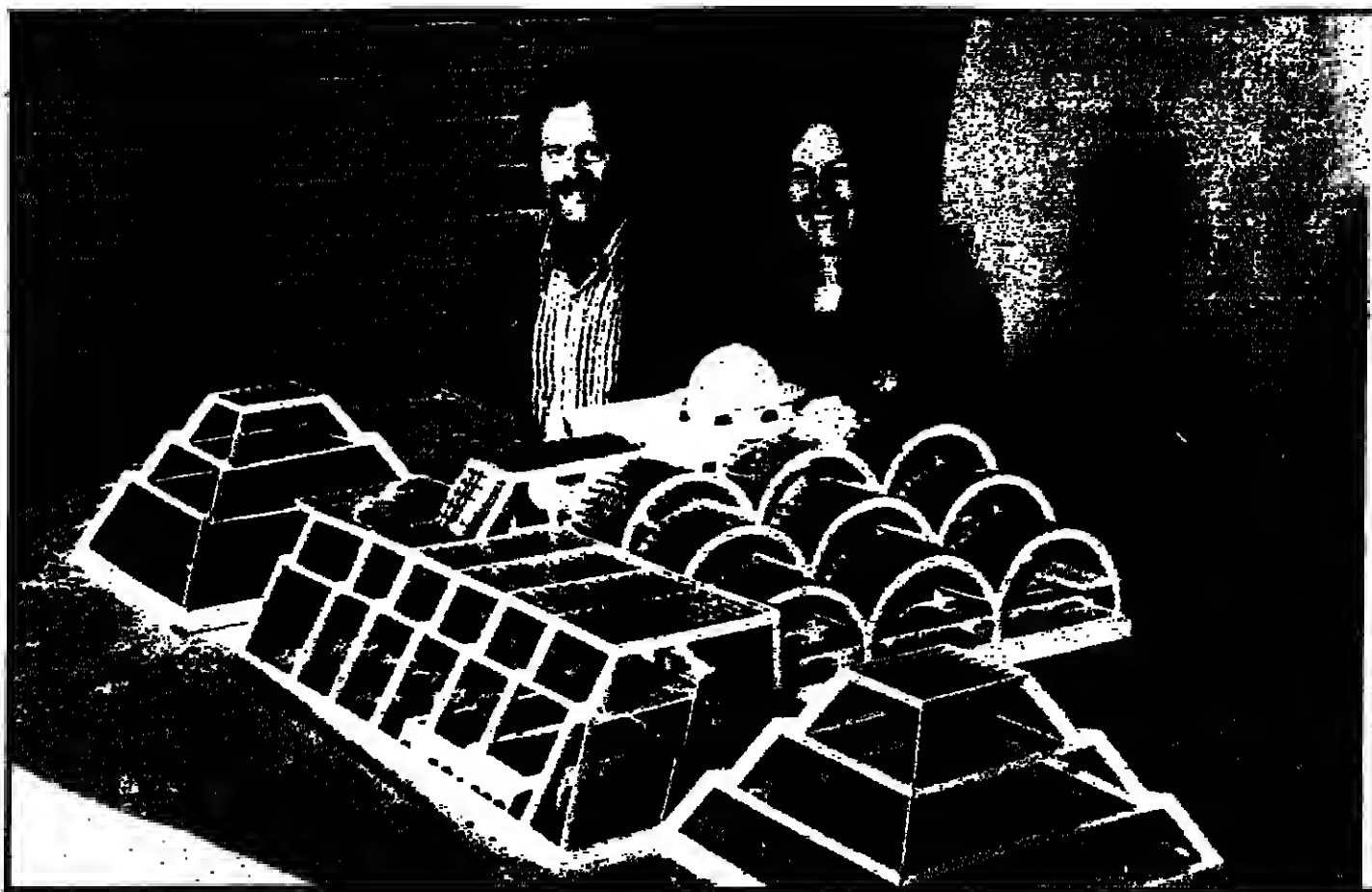
"We're looking at a well-balanced diet," Miss Augustine says. "Otherwise, we might have a mutiny or something."

Livestock to go along

Not that the biospherians will have to be vegetarians. "We are starting with a total food-production system," Hodges said in his presentation to the space commission. "We do not plan to eat algae. The plan includes a number of animals — small goats, chicken, fish, and a few others."

Everything in Biosphere II will have to sustain itself. Air will be circulated and purified through microbe-filled chunks of dirt called soil-block reactors. Biospherians will be able to drink safely the same water that has been through the sewage and fish-production systems, Hodges says.

Expertise from many sources is being called upon to develop the biosphere's ecosystems. Down under the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, scientists of the



Co-architects Margaret Augustine and Phil Jaworski look over their model of Biosphere II. When finished, the prototype of Biosphere II will cover about two acres and contain 90,300 square feet. By 1989, eight carefully chosen persons — "biospherians" — are expected to enter its enclosed, self-sustaining environment for two years. And future biospheres may provide a habitat for space explorers on the moon and Mars.

Marine Systems Laboratory are building tanks that will house the complex estuarine system.

At the New York Botanical Garden's Institute of Economic Botany, species are being selected for the tropical rain-forest ecosystem. Work on the desert and savannah ecosystems is being done in the arid Tucson area.

Apart from Biosphere II's potential for space settlements, Hodges and his colleagues see it in more down-to-earth terms: as a means of studying Biosphere I —

the planet we now live on — and helping solve the multiplying problems of its deteriorating environment.

"I really believe that one of the problems of Biosphere I is that it doesn't have another biosphere to talk to," Hodges says. "Biosphere II's short-term contribution, in terms of Biosphere I, will be tremendous. That alone would be reason enough to do it."

But once the space commission issues its report, with its projected timetable for U.S. interplanetary

exploration in the decades ahead, attention will focus on the kind of lives people will live in space.

'Mainstream thinking'

Christopher P. McKay, a planetary scientist at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Centre in California, specializes in Mars settlement. The space commission report is important, he says, because it will legitimize talk about placing humans beyond

Earth. "It's no longer the lunatic fringe," he says. "It's mainstream thinking."

Most scientists prefer an international Mars mission, achieved cooperatively by the United States, the Soviet Union, and perhaps other nations.

Astronomer Carl Sagan, president of the Planetary Society, has said that such a mission would be "an event as important as the colonization of the land by the first amphibians some 500 million years ago."

U.S. explores new counter-terror technologies

By Irwin Arieff
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Three U.S. companies are developing exotic surveillance technologies that would help blear-eyed airport guards spot concealed bombs and weapons.

With prospects that some of the new anti-terror snooping devices might be ready by next year, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is spending about \$5 million a year on the private research effort.

"The FAA strategy is to keep a step ahead of the terrorist," agency chief Donald Engen told Reuters. "For every action he takes, we want to have the means to block it."

Tshai Gozani, a scientist with the research firm Science Applications International, said: "We cannot solve all the problems simultaneously." "But through this technology we can plug one hole in the dike, or even two holes, and make it much more difficult for terrorists to succeed."

While the main motivation for the new research is to find defenses against the plastic bombs and guns that have been smuggled aboard planes with apparent ease, the new devices could also solve problems created by the fact that security guards get tired and bored staring at X-ray screens.

"We've been looking for a long time for ways to take human frailty out of the loop," said FAA spokesman Fred Farrar.

Under FAA research grants of about \$4 million apiece, spread over a two-year period, Science Applications of La Jolla, California, and Pittsburgh-based Westinghouse Electric Corporation are working separately on a new type of bomb detector using a technique known as "thermal neutron activation" (TNA).

The basis of TNA, experts say, is that materials exposed to radiation react by emitting radiation of their own.

Since each type of matter — including explosives — emits a characteristic pattern of radiation, these waves will identify the composition of a concealed object just as a fingerprint identifies an individual.

TNA technology would be confined to screening luggage and parcels rather than passengers because it relies on radioactive emissions potentially harmful to humans.

Westinghouse and Science Applications officials said TNA has already been shown to work in airport tests and a working model could be in operation by mid-1987.

Had such a device been in place in airports earlier this year, the officials said, it might have detected the plastic explosive hidden in the baggage of a woman about to board an Israeli airliner at London's Heathrow airport on April 18.

Plastic cannot be detected by the usual X-ray or metal detection devices used at airports.

This particular bomb had passed through Heathrow's

security system.

Another promising new technology, nicknamed the "sniffer," would search out bombs in luggage or on a person's body by detecting traces of gaseous vapours explosives give out.

The device, being developed by Thermedics Incorporated of Woburn, Massachusetts, under an FAA grant of about \$1 million, has been shown in tests to be capable of finding concealed plastic explosives and dynamite by "sniffing" the air as samples go by, company officials said.

The officials declined to be more specific about how this device would work or what it looks like.

But they said a prototype may be in place by early 1987.

Experts say the sniffer might have been able to detect the plastic explosives apparently smuggled on board Trans World Airlines flight 840 from Rome to Cairo last April 2. The bomb blew a hole in the plane over Greece.

FAA officials said they also are looking for ways to detect new firearms that are made of plastic instead of metal, although no research contracts have yet been given out.

The agency became interested after the Austrian-made Glock 17, a nine-millimetre automatic pistol made almost entirely of plastic, appeared on the world market.

FAA officials say a well-trained airport security guard can detect a concealed Glock 17 with an X-ray screening device because it still has some metal parts. But they acknowledge such a weapon may become more of a problem in the future.

"There are no 100 per cent plastic guns now, and it's questionable whether there ever will be, but — just in case — the FAA earlier this year asked industry for ideas of how to detect them," said agency spokesman Farrar.

Among the most promising technologies at this point, he said, is an infrared scanner that would work something like a metal detector, displaying a concealed plastic pistol as "a cold spot on a nice warm body."

Security experts like the fact that the new snappier devices replace the human senses with electronic circuitry.

Besides the human fatigue or distraction factor, they say, even an alert guard could be fooled by, say, a bomb in the shape of a hairbrush, while a machine presumably would not.

Officials involved in the research acknowledge the new technologies will make airline security more costly but say the expense will be worth it because of the saving of lives.

"You are talking about systems that are more expensive than metal detectors and X-rays, but I think it will be affordable by airports and the cost will come down if many of the devices are ordered," said Gozani of Science Applications.

"I think the price will be right for the risk, and I think people will be very happy to pay the price."



Haiti today: The 15th Century navigator Christopher Columbus described Haiti as "filled with trees of a thousand kinds and tall."

Now, the trees are gone, and their loss threatens Haiti with famine. (Photo Mark Edwards — Earthscan)

Haiti: naked land, troubled times

By Robert P. Lamb

Politically unstable and indescribably poor, Haiti is environmentally bankrupt. Stripped bare of trees and topsoil the land cannot support its peasant farmers. They are convinced of the need to plant trees and restore the soil, but the government has other things on its mind.

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti — "Yesterday, Bangladesh. Today, Ethiopia. Tomorrow, Haiti?" These are the opening lines of the most frequently broadcast advertisement on Haitian TV urging the 6 million people of this impoverished Caribbean state to pull together to head off famine.

To the vast majority of the population in the slums of the capital, Port au Prince, and in the countryside, catastrophe is already upon them. Nearly two children out of every 10 do not live beyond five years, most die of easily prevented diseases like diarrhoea.

A 1985 survey by UNICEF found 73 per cent of all children of school age to be suffering from some form of malnutrition.

"The world doesn't know about the Haitian crisis because there are no relief camps, the country is not well enough organised for that," says Dr. Glenn Smucker, director of Proje Pyebwa, the Pan American Foundation's Haitian tree-planting project.

Hurricanes and frequent droughts and flooding have contributed to the crisis but no one is in any doubt that the real blame lies with the regime of former president for life, Jean Claude Duvalier, who now lives in comfortable exile in France. At least 15 per cent of the country's annual income went into his personal bank accounts.

The Duvalier government did not even bother to put up an appearance of showing any concern for the welfare of the

people. Last year, Haiti's pathetically small health ministry actually closed down when emergency funds provided by the U.S. disappeared.

"It was a government of organised thievery and brutality," says Dr. Smucker.

Tacit approval came from one quarter only, the IMF, which liked the tight government spending. "In fact in all the sectors that mattered, health, agriculture and energy, there was no government spending at all," says Bob Lemole, a leading Haitian TV journalist.

In the countryside the consequences of decades of neglect are striking. The sugar and coffee plantations took all the fertiliser and pesticides and the villagers, who make up 80 per cent of the population, were left with nothing. In the whole country there are only a few thousand hectares of irrigated land, and most is in need of urgent rehabilitation.

Dramatic evidence of the mismanagement of Haiti is the border with the Dominican Republic, on the Dominican side thick forest, and on the other, bare hillsides.

At current rates of destruction there will be no tree cover left 15 years from now. Clearance for agriculture is the main cause. With a population growth rate of nearly 2 per cent a year and a near total absence of investment in home food production, farmers have been forced to cultivate and overgraze unsuitable lands.

Throughout this mountainous country slopes afforested within living memory have been reduced to rubble. Haiti is one of the few countries where agricultural productivity is actually declining.

Five years ago FAO estimated that Haiti was losing 6,000 hectares of land each year. The eroded soil is washed into streams and rivers. Miles out to sea beyond Port au Prince the water is stained brown with mud.

Conflicts over increasingly scarce land are becoming common. Villagers outside Port au Prince describe events like the recent mutilation in a hand axe fight of one neighbour by another: the two men were fighting over ownership of a patch of grazing land.

There are no reliable statistics on how many villagers are being forced off the land. Most end up in the slums of Port au Prince, but their dream is to escape to the United States. Outside the U.S. Consulate in Port au Prince thousands queue patiently everyday for a visa. The U.S. Coastguard keeps a permanent flotilla off Haiti to intercept the Haitian boat people. Despite the obstacles, there are nearly half a million Haitians living in New York alone.

In face of the massive demand for charcoal and firewood — the only available fuel for the vast majority — the country's 50 forest protection laws are without meaning. According to a World Bank survey the 2.4 million cubic metre (85 million cu ft) fuelwood deficit is set to nearly triple by the turn of the century.

There are few energy alternatives. An American-built hydroelectric dam at Peligre in the mountains near the Dominican border is clogged with silt and operating at one-quarter the

intended capacity. Experts say it may have to be shut down if siltation is not stopped. The dip in oil prices has not helped the poor, who cannot hope to afford a kerosene stove.

As land becomes more scarce the poorest farmers turn to firewood collection. Each week 27-year-old Dieu donne Joseph makes a five hour bus ride from his nearest village in the North into Port au Prince to sell a few sacks of charcoal at less than a dollar a time. His barely enough to support his young family. Joseph is worried that the trees will soon be gone but is hoping that there will be free distribution of trees in his village. "If they give me a tree I'll plant one for each one I cut," he says.

Under a U.S. Aid \$8 million scheme, volunteer groups have encouraged villagers to plant over 17 million trees in four years. Dr. Smucker says that villagers have become enthusiastic tree planters. "They will travel huge distances to collect the saplings, because they have come to realise their livelihood depends upon restoring the tree cover," he says.

But it is going to take more than tree-planting to rescue Haiti from crisis. The post Duvalier Government of General Henri Namphy is in a state of near total confusion, effective only for the way it is bringing Duvalier supporters, in particular the notorious Tonton Macoutes, to book.

Sooner rather than later the government will have to turn all its attention to improving the lot of the vast majority of Haiti's desperately poor. The civil unrest responsible for the ousting of Jean Claude Duvalier is bubbling just below the surface — Earthscan feature.

Koch on ropes as scandal claims close aide

By Arthur Spiegelman
Reuters

NEW YORK — New York Mayor Edward Koch, who used to delight in asking all and sundry "How am I doing," is not doing very well these days and is seldom even daring to ask that question.

Five months of unrelenting political scandal — from the suicide of a close political associate under investigation for corruption to the resignation of his closest aide for lying — have taken their toll on America's best-known mayor.

Few cities have had a mayor as visible or articulate as Ed Koch. He appears on the popular late-night television programme "The Tonight Show," stars with the muppets in a movie, is sought out by presidents and visiting heads of state. He even has his own foreign policy.

But now newspapers, friends and opponents are speculating that the man who says he intends to be mayor of New York for life may resign within a year, not even reaching the mid-way point of his third term.

The question "do you plan to quit?" was the first asked recently when Koch announced the resignation of close aide Victor Botnick, chairman of the city's health and hospitals corporation, for lying by saying he was a college graduate.

With seven former city officials and influential politicians now under indictment for corruption, including soliciting bribes from companies doing business with the city, the Botnick affair may seem minor.

But city hall's once admiring press corps pursued it as if it was another Watergate scandal, with headlines screaming that scandal had reached Koch's office itself.

Botnick, 32, has been a Koch aide for almost a decade, becoming the mayor's hatchman and one of his closest associates. Koch rejects speculation over his future, saying that kind of talk is inspired by his political enemies who will have to beat him at the polls in 1989 if they want him out of office.

He now views the once-admiring city hall press room as among the enemies.

But even his friends say Koch has changed in the last months, that he has lost his appetite for his job.

"I would not say his government is unravelling, I would say he is," said one close associate.

"He doesn't focus on things like he used to. He's abstracted, remote. He's handled his crises badly."

And, added the associate, who is an important adviser to several top New York political figures, Koch had to bury and put his political house in order to survive as mayor.

"There is a bunker mentality in city hall. The people immediately around him are not telling him things in a tough manner. They are saying yes to him, when they

should be saying no. They should be restraining his worst instincts and they are not and he is in trouble."

But not all those close to Koch agree with that assessment.

Robert F. Wagner Jr., a close friend and former deputy mayor under Koch, says, "This is clearly a tough time for him. There are days when he is besieged. But the notion he has gone into the bunker is exaggerated. He has not lost control of the government, but has had some very bad days."

Koch's reaction to the Botnick affair was to order him to work for 240 hours cleaning bedpans in a hospital ward for AIDS victims if he wanted to keep his job — and, when Botnick insisted on quitting, Koch vented his fury on the press.

Since they had become policy makers, he said, they should make their income tax returns public the way politicians do.

Veteran city hall observers called Koch's solution to keep Botnick on the city's payroll silly.

Koch's problems started a month after he took the oath of office in January for a third term, after winning with a record 78 per cent of the vote in the November election.

It was then that Donald Manes, a friend for 20 years and president of the city's borough of Queens, attempted suicide.

A disturbed Koch rushed to Manes's hospital room, telling him, "Don't worry about anything. Donny, we all love you."

Within two days, newspapers revealed Manes was at the heart of a corruption scandal at the city's parking violations bureau.

Koch turned on Manes, calling him a crook before he had been charged with any crime. In March, Manes killed himself by plunging a knife into his heart as he talked on the phone with his psychiatrist.

Soon other city bureaus came under scrutiny and more indictments followed. Koch, who had taken office denouncing the city's political bosses, had made deals with them for their support. Several are under indictment and Koch is accused by critics of not running the government but letting others do so and do so corruptly.

"He did give too much power to the political organisations. They supported him and he let his guard down. He regrets that now and has begun to put in place a set of reforms ... that will alter the relationship between government and the political system," Wagner said.

But adds another friend, "Ed just reacted badly... he should not have embraced Manes and then called him a crook. He should have taken a lead from the Governor (Mario Cuomo), called the whole thing a tragedy and kept his distance."

"Up to the Manes affair Koch was a teflon mayor — like those pans nothing stuck to him. Now the teflon is wearing off," says Frank Lombardi, chief political reporter for the New York Daily News.

West German police pioneer the crime-busting boar

By Tom Wolf
Reuters

HILDESHEIM, West Germany — Police in West Germany have pioneered a new four-footed weapon for the fight against crime — Louise, the drug-sniffing pig.

Louise, a two-year-old who weighs 100 kilograms, is actually a wild boar band-raised by a police inspector and now officially employed to track down narcotics, explosives and other aromatic contraband.

Her mentor, inspector Werner Franke, told Reuters she could outdo any canine tracker and would keep on sniffing in intense heat long after police dogs had given up.

Franke, who heads the lower Saxony state police academy's dog-training school, said Louise attracted his interest four weeks after her birth in a nearby game park.

He took her home for a test period and soon established that her natural talent could be put to official use in the field of crime-busting, and that she responded to orders.

"After one day she was following me around. She immediately accepted me as her superior," Franke said.

"When she was about two months old she went into the academy's basement where the officers keep their refreshments. She stood in front of the fridge and would not move until somebody opened it and gave her the milk her nose told her was inside," he recalled proudly.

At about the same time he started training her to sniff out hashish. She was quick to learn and each time she found the hidden substance she was given a biscuit.

She was only about nine weeks

old when she first detected hashish hidden in suitcases.

Wild boars and pigs have long been used in France and Italy to sniff out truffles, the expensive cooking delicacy which grows deep under forest floors.

Louise can detect all known narcotics at a depth of 1.5 metres below the surface, which would fox the best canine noses.

Unlike dogs at the academy, whose commands are barked out by handlers on the training ground, she needs no more than a whisper to snap into action.

And whereas dogs can be distracted easily by other noises and smells, Louise is not thus swayed from her task. "She is very sensitive but she has nerves like steel wire," Franke said.

"Pigs can sniff around all day without a break and cover large areas. It's their natural instinct. They are ideal for what we call 'large area sniffing' and it is difficult to distract them. They are very concentrated and conscientious workers," he explained.

Dogs usually have a break after about 10 minutes.

But police dog-handlers can rest assured that there is not too much risk of being ordered to trade in their charges for a boar, because pigs also have disadvantages.

"Louise should not be viewed as competition to the dogs but as a useful addition," Franke said.

Owing to her short-sightedness and clumsiness, Louise would not make an ideal house-searcher or airport guard. Her bulk would also be liable to get jammed during car searches and she could be lowered from a helicopter to a remote search site only with the greatest difficulty. Dogs do both tasks with aplomb.

Becker powers into 2nd straight Wimbledon final

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Defending champion Boris Becker rode his powerful serve and acrobatic returns into a second straight Wimbledon final Friday, beating Henri Leconte 6-2, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3 to spoil the Frenchman's 23rd birthday.

Becker, the youngest-ever Wimbledon men's champ when he won a year ago at 17, broke Leconte's service in the very first game, and again in the fifth game of the first set. On his own serve, the 18-year-old West German was unbeatable.

At 4-1 and 40-15, Becker won the game on a second-serve ace. On set point, Becker blazed a serve down the middle to Leconte's forehand. The Frenchman, seeded no. 7, never had time to do anything but hang his head.

In the second set, Leconte played more like the man who won his quarterfinal match over Australian Pat Cash with a line display of power tennis. He charged the net behind his serve and hit away volley after volley, and Becker had to tumble around the centre court turf to reach many shots.

But Leconte never could break Becker, and in the seventh game Becker got the point he needed when Leconte double faulted. Becker then held and the Frenchman was disgusted, offering his racket to the crowd, then bouncing a ball off his head as he prepared to serve the next game.

Leconte held, but Becker closed the set the next game with a service winner.

The third set was on serve all the way — thanks to one of those flying shots that Becker in the last two years has made as much a part of Wimbledon as strawberries and cream.

Leconte was at set point with Becker serving in the 10th game following a double fault, and it looked as if the set was his as he fired a forehand down the line.

But Becker, rushing the net, launched himself to his left and, with his body parallel to the ground, sent a backhand volley

across court for a winner. He would up holding serve when Leconte sent a return long and netted a backhand.

In the tiebreaker, Leconte broke twice for a 4-1 lead. Becker broke for 5-3 but Leconte then held and won the set when Becker netted a backhand volley.

The fourth set turned on the fourth game, as Becker broke Leconte's serve for a 3-1 lead. Leconte's next service game produced a memorable point.

Twice Becker went flying near the net to return shots, tumbling back to his feet like a wrestler looking for where the next hold would come from. The second of these shots sent Leconte deep into his backhand corner, from where he ripped a shot down the line that passed Becker. Leconte gave out a shout and shook his arms in glee, and he held serve for 4-2.

JYO chief, Al Wihdat officials discuss new club regulations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Youth Organisation Director General Mohammad Jamil Abu Fayyeb met on Thursday with a delegation from Al Wihdat Youth Club to discuss the implementation of new regulations governing the club's organisation following the recent assumption of responsibility for its activities by the Ministry of Youth. Al Wihdat Sporting

Activities Department chief N'haled Rahal reported that the meeting focused on the submission of the new regulations to the club's constituent assembly. Mr. Rahal also said that Al Wihdat's current administration would meet with Mr. Abu Fayyeb as soon as possible to prepare for the selection of a new constituent assembly.

S.Korea slams North's response to IOC plan

By Lee Su-Wan
Reuters

SEOUL — South Korean officials Friday denounced as "unreasonable" a North Korean response to an International Olympic Committee (IOC) offer to stage some events of the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games in the North.

The IOC said Thursday North and South had reacted "very

positively" to its proposal that Communist North Korea host the table tennis and archery events, as well as one group in the soccer competition and part of the 100 kilometre bicycle road race.

But the Lausanne-based Olympic governing body said it was seeking further information as to interpretation of the North Korean reply before calling a new round of talks to organise the transfer of some sports to

Pyongyang. South Korean Olympic officials here said that though the North "agreed in principle" to the IOC proposal, it made new "unreasonable demands including a claim for more events in the North."

North Korea last year demanded the Seoul Games be shared equally and threatened a boycott if its demands were rejected.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

England slows India's chase

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — Seamer Derek Pringle struck a vital blow on the second day of the third and final cricket test Friday when he removed Sunil Gavaskar as India began their chase after England's first innings total of 390. Gavaskar and Krishna Srikanth took full toll of some loose bowling from Pringle and test debutant Neal Radford as they quickly added 53 for the first wicket in the afternoon session. But the aggressive Srikanth took one chance too many when he chased a long hop from Radford and succeeded only in edging the ball chest-high to Pringle at first slip. Srikanth was out for 23 and England had made an important breakthrough in their bid to salvage some respect after losing the first two tests of the series.

Thierry Marie wins Tour de France prologue

BOULOGNE-BILLANCOURT, France (AP) — Frenchman Thierry Marie won Friday's prologue opening the 73rd Tour de France cycling classic, finishing the time trial a fraction of a second ahead of Belgium's Eric Vanderaerden. Marie, 23, took the 4.6-kilometre prologue in 5 minutes 21.069, riding a cycle equipped with a special fin. Vanderaerden finished a hair's breadth behind. French star Bernard Hinault, last year's winner looking for a sixth victory, was third, more than two seconds behind the winner. The other two favourites, France's Laurent Bignon and American Greg Lemond, clocked in at the same time, 5 minutes, 25.00.

Senna, Mansell duel

LE CASTELLER, France (R) — Brazilian Ayrton Senna and world championship rival Nigel Mansell of Britain turned first practice for Sunday's French Grand Prix into a duel in the sun at Le Casteller Friday.

And it was Senna who drew first blood in the battle for pole position, emerging sweat-soaked from the furnace heat of his Lotus cockpit with the best of one minute 06.526 seconds.

Mansell, equally drained after a jittery but abortive last gasp effort in his Williams, had to settle for the second quickest time of 1:06.755.

Championship leader Senna and third-placed Mansell had nonstop each others progress throughout the one-hour session at shortened, modified and theoretically safer Le Casteller. When Senna went out, Mansell waited and watched from the pits.

When the Brazilian returned he kept an equally close eye on Mansell.

Senna, who has won twice and claimed four pole positions in the seven races decided this season, was naturally happy with the outcome.

Mansell also triumphed twice and a mere seven points behind Senna in the title chase, said he was baulked by a slower car during his final effort but was generally satisfied.

Alain Prost, reigning champion and the other member of the breakaway trio at the head of the championship, was fifth fastest in his McLaren.

Prost, bidding for his third win in his "home" Grand Prix, said he had been handicapped by reduced engine power.

Brazilian Nelson Piquet, first last year and active leader, things briefly until the Senna-Mansell takeover, finished third best with 1:06.797 in the second Williams.

Mandlikova aims at 2nd 'double'

By Brian Creighton
Reuters

LONDON — The remarkable double that Hana Mandlikova produced to win the U.S. Open 10 months ago could be here again at Wimbledon.

The 24-year-old Czechoslovak stunned the tennis world at Flushing Meadow in New York last September by upsetting Chris Evert Lloyd and Martina Navratilova in succession.

Now she is in a position to do it a second time after her devastating 7-6, 7-5 triumph over Lloyd Thursday earned her a place in the Wimbledon final Saturday against Navratilova.

And there is every indication she can pull it off again.

This is a new Mandlikova, far removed from the emotional, excitable player whose tendency to lose her head in a crisis stopped her talent flowering.

Things happened during the Lloyd match Thursday which once would have triggered a collapse in Mandlikova, such as some doubtful line calls, the loss of two key games midway through the opening set and Lloyd taking a 5-2 lead in the second.

Instead, she remained calm, took the first set on a tie-break and reeled off five successive games in blistering fashion in the second set to sweep Lloyd out of the tournament.

She won 14 consecutive points during that spell, including three

love games, and it was very much a matter of her winning the points rather than Lloyd losing them.

"I think I've grown up a bit," Mandlikova said. "I can handle things differently from five years ago. When I was in the final in 1981, I was different. I felt the nervousness inside. I woke up at 6 a.m., thinking about the match."

"I lost my concentration absolutely. I don't do that now," added Mandlikova, who lost that final to Lloyd 6-2, 6-2.

Lloyd also commented on the transformation. "I've seen a significant change in Hana, as a person and as a tennis player. She's a lot nicer and she's so much more relaxed now. She's maturing. She kept her composure."

For all that, Mandlikova faces a monumental task to stop Navratilova from becoming the first woman since Suzanne Lenglen of France in 1923 to win five Wimbledon titles in a row, and only the third woman to win seven overall.

Navratilova, 29, has played better in this tournament than she has here in several years, though the draw was kind to her.

Her service, always a huge weapon, is more consistent than ever following a slight alteration earlier this year.

She throws the ball up higher and the result, in her 6-2, 6-2 semifinal win over Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, was that she landed more than 75 per cent

of her first serves.

Navratilova is not nervous about the chance of ending Lenglen's record. "I'm excited to be in that position and I'm excited about the way I'm playing. I'm moving better than in a long time and I'm serving better than I have in a very long time," she said.

"It's my seventh final and I've never lost a final, so if I lose this one, I wonder what it will be like," Navratilova added.

The battle between the two Prague-born girls — Navratilova is now a U.S. citizen — is likely to turn on services, and Mandlikova's has also been formidable.

"On Saturday I'll have to serve as I did today, and I'll have to come in more, sometimes on the second serve," Mandlikova said after beating Lloyd.

"We're both going to rush the net the whole time. Whoever breaks serve earlier, or returns better, is going to win the match."

"I think I can beat Martina, but it's going to be a very difficult match. I am confident after the U.S. Open, and beating Chris is great. But now I have to play a serve and volley player and that's going to be tough for me."

Lloyd opted for Navratilova. "I think Hana is capable of beating Martina on grass. But for all her great and flashy shots, she's still making more errors than Martina. I have to put my money on Martina. She is more consistent right now."

Keeping the stars of Wimbledon fit

By Tim Heritage
Reuters

LONDON — In an age when top tennis players can play tournaments the whole year round, the court has become a battleground from which few escape unscathed.

"Burn-out" is an all too familiar feature of the modern game and with players trying to extract the last juice from their weary bodies for a few dollars more, injuries are common.

But in an effort to wipe out the problems that threaten a player's career, the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) has two physiotherapists and athletic

trainers who travel with the tennis circus.

With Wimbledon the latest stop for the travelling show, Americans Bill Norris and Todd Snyder are this fortnight dealing with grass — the most dangerous surface of all.

"You can't slide on grass and that's what causes the problems. The most common problems we have here are pulled abductor muscles in the upper leg, pulled hamstrings, sprained ankles, strains of the lower leg muscles and the lower back," Norris told Reuters.

"And there are sunburn and cramp in this hot weather and players need to take in a lot of fluids to prevent dehydration."

Norris, an enthusiastic 43-year-old from Florida, added. But as Norris and Snyder both spend 30 weeks a year with the players, they hear about more than just the players' physical strains.

"We get to know the players' idiosyncrasies and injury histories but also find ourselves in the father-confessor role," Norris said.

Norris' pre-match massage often becomes a psychological

boost.

"We try to help players to play after an injury but we never try to persuade them to play if they're going to jeopardise their career," Norris said.

Only three players have retired from matches at Wimbledon so far, but for some players, it is a question of mind over matter.

"Jimmy Connors has a great sense of responsibility to perform when he's injured. He feels the people are paying good money to watch him perform and if it takes bandaging him up to get him on court, he'll want that," Norris said.

Some young men players find the pressures on them too great, suffering the same "burn-out" problems as the women.

American Billy Martin, one of the greatest young hopes of the 1970s after beating Jimmy Connors while still at college, eventually faded from the scene under the intense mental and physical strain.

But Norris and Snyder are putting into practice at Wimbledon what they have learned from experiences such as Martin's.

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Pretoria mobilises public to fight bomb campaign

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African police Friday mobilised the public to fight an urban bombing campaign, while the government said it would be suicidal for Pretoria to bow to Western demands for apartheid reforms.

In an unusual move, police issued a lengthy statement urging home-owners to search backyards and spare rooms for arms caches and appealing for heightened vigilance.

It disclosed that the number of blasts since a nationwide state of emergency was declared on June 12 had risen to 12 — more than previously reported.

The bombing campaign, blamed by authorities on the banned African National Congress, the chief guerrilla opponent of white minority rule, has hit Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban, killing three people and injuring about 100, most of them whites.

"It is of the utmost importance that all peace-loving and law-abiding citizens combine forces to eradicate this danger to our lives," the statement said.

Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said Thursday night that demands made on South Africa by foreign governments were excessive and if Pretoria complied it would be "tantamount to suicide."

His speech came as British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe prepared for a last-ditch mission to promote dialogue between black leaders and Pretoria.

If the Howe mission, expected to begin next week, fails, the European Community has threatened tougher economic sanctions against Pretoria.

Mr. Botha said South Africans should be braced for more stringent sanctions. He noted that the country's major trading

partners — Britain, the United States, West Germany and France — had conservative administrations.

"If under these conservative leaders more punitive measures are instituted against South Africa, then the chances of these measures ever being recalled by less conservative leaders... are very small," he said.

The police statement appealed to South Africans to watch out for suspicious objects and said dustbins must be moved from public places. Some of the bombs have been placed in dustbins.

It was necessary for the public to learn how to recognise "various weapons of terror, such as limpet mines and hand grenades," it said.

Meanwhile black trade union leader Jay Naidoo, in hiding for fear of detention under South Africa's state of emergency, said Thursday the clampdown had strengthened the resolve of millions of ordinary black workers.

In an interview with Reuters, Mr. Naidoo, general secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), said the three-week-old emergency had "not demoralised COSATU or wiped it out because it is firmly rooted."

It has strengthened our resolve to fight for full democratic rights in our country," he said.

Naidoo said the emergency, which Pretoria imposed to quell black unrest, had angered the grassroots membership of the 500,000-strong labour organisation and there was strong

pressure from the rank and file to take protest action.

The main black-led labour federation said Wednesday it will take "effective measures" unless its demands — including the release of unionists detained since the emergency — are met by July 10.

The statement was issued after black union leaders — about half of whom are in hiding — met to discuss strategy.

This report has been restricted because of emergency regulations. Industrial relations structures, built up over the past seven years since black workers were allowed to organise legally, were in jeopardy, Naidoo said.

Unionists were seriously considering the viability of normal negotiating procedures in the light of what has happened in recent weeks, he added.

"The actual form of action has still to be ratified but we will use the only action left to us and that is our industrial power," Mr. Naidoo said.

Union sources say COSATU is considering action lasting 24 hours, probably on July 14. This could result in many workers not reporting for duty. COSATU has declined to confirm this.

Mr. Naidoo said the emergency disrupted union activities at first but COSATU's operations were resumed and alternative ways of communicating found in the second week.

He said reports he had been seized were incorrect.

He had gone underground when news of the state of emergency reached him "before the net of security reached us," he said.

Mr. Naidoo, who is not staying at any fixed place, said the house where he normally lived was raided but he was not there.

7 die in 2-day Chilean protests

SANTIAGO (R) — Four more people were shot dead in anti-government demonstrations, bringing to seven the death toll from two days of protests, Chilean police, church and hospital sources said.

President Augusto Pinochet again ordered combat troops to patrol working-class districts of Santiago and residents reported bursts of gunfire throughout the evening as youths built barricades in traditional protest trouble-spots.

Some said the military action was the heaviest since protests in favour of a return to democracy began in earnest in May 1983.

A priest in the slum area of La Legua said at least one of Thursday night's victims was shot by soldiers. Police and hospital sources said the others were killed in "confusing incidents."

The two-day protest stopped disrupted transport and commerce and, although it appeared to make little impact on industry, the National Civil Assembly said it was one of the most significant in almost 13 years of military rule.

"In the face of this generalised, peaceful demonstration... the regime once again deployed repression," the assembly, a new opposition coalition, said in a statement.

Seventeen of its leaders, charged under internal security laws, are in hiding.

But the government depicted the protest as an orgy of violence and vandalism, with 75 explosions, 13 firebomb attacks and more than 600 arrests over the two days.

It said in an official report that 36 people had been wounded by bullets, buckshot or shotgun pellets by Thursday evening and five police were among the injured.

"What Chile expects is seriousness and responsibility and not anarchy and revolutions," Gen. Pinochet said Thursday night.

The violent climax to the protest came despite an appeal from the Roman Catholic Church for the security forces to refrain from causing more damage than they were trying to prevent by using excessive force against demonstrators.

In one incident Thursday, an air force soldier fired on a West German television crew from ZDF Second Channel, spraying their car with buckshot and wounding their Chilean driver in the face and arm, correspondent Rolf Pflucke said. An air force spokesman said he had no information about the incident.

Activity in central Santiago picked up slightly Thursday, but most buses were off the roads for the second straight day and stores and businesses closed early after police cleared streets with tear gas and water cannon.

Opposition trade union leader Rodolfo Seguel admitted many people had been forced to go to work Friday for fear of losing their jobs. Seguel's own union, the copper workers, staged largely symbolic protests.

Journalists in the desert city of Chuquibambilla, home of the world's largest copper mine, said 400 workers marched to the neighbouring city of Calama but found their way blocked by 30 truckloads of troops. Thirty marchers were arrested.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said that the United States "deplores" the deaths and injuries that accompanied the Chilean general strike called on July 2 by opposition groups within the Civic Assembly. He noted that the violence occurred despite explicit appeals by Civic Assembly leaders for non-violence.

When U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz visited South Korea in May, the two kings were not among opposition politicians invited to meet him.

Mr. Shultz also drew criticism from opposition politicians after expressing satisfaction at the Seoul government's efforts to establish democracy.

The opposition says there are more than 1,000 political prisoners in the country.

Mr. Walker said in a statement Friday South Korea had seen great political changes in the past five years.

"Issues of democratisation and human rights have come even more to the fore. This is a development that Americans applaud," he said.

Early this year Gen. Chun banned an NKDP campaign for electoral reforms. But, just before Mr. Shultz visited South Korea, he said he would agree to a new constitution if ruling and opposition parties could agree in parliament on a new national charter.

The U.S. House of Representatives last month urged Seoul to pursue national reconciliation and hold presidential elections by 1988 to guarantee personal freedoms.

20 hurt in Manila demonstration

MANILA (R) — Fourteen policemen and at least six demonstrators were injured Friday in street clashes during an anti-nuclear rally outside the U.S. embassy.

Hospital officials reported one man was shot in the back but the wound was not serious.

About 2,000 left-wing demonstrators fought back as police used tear gas and clubs to force them off the main boulevard outside the embassy in Central Manila.

After regrouping in a nearby park, they reassembled in greater number to burn an effigy of "Uncle Sam" and chant anti-American slogans. Police estimated the crowd at about 6,000.

The embassy was closed for Independence Day, also a public holiday here to mark Philippine-American Friendship Day.

It was biggest anti-American demonstration by leftist groups since President Corason Aquino was installed in office last February following the overthrow of Ferdinand Marcos.

Red Cross officials said many of the injured police had been hit by rocks, bottles and home-made fragmentation bombs.

It was not clear who shot the wounded man, a 24-year-old labourer, but some witnesses told reporters they saw police firing into the crowd.

Among those joining the second round of the demonstration were six of the 48

delegates appointed by Mrs. Aquino to a special commission drafting a new constitution.

One of them, University Professor Edmundo Garcia, told reporters they wanted the document to declare the Philippines "nuclear-free, of weapons and power plants."

The rally was organised by left-wing student and labour union groups who say nuclear weapons are stored at two U.S. bases in northern Philippines.

They were also protesting against a nuclear power plant west of Manila which the government of President Corason Aquino has already said will not be put into service.

About 2,000 people attended the rally.

On Thursday, Communist rebels killed 10 army troops in the second major guerrilla ambush this week, while President Corason Aquino's government was preparing for cease-fire talks with the insurgents, government reports said.

The Philippine News Agency, quoting military reports, said the soldiers belonging to the army's 50th Infantry Battalion were crossing a river at daybreak Thursday when about 60 insurgents opened fire on them.

Col. Jesus De La Cruz, regional constabulary commander, said 19 teams of government troops, backed by helicopters, had been sent to pursue the rebel band.

The casualties brought to 23 the number of soldiers killed in guerrilla ambushes on the main

Philippine island of Luzon this week.

Marcos seeks asylum in Morocco

Philippine newspaper reported Friday that ousted President Ferdinand Marcos might be seeking asylum in Morocco. They quoted Vice-President Salvador Laurel, who is also foreign minister, as saying he had received unconfirmed reports that a member of the Marcos family had gone to Rabat from Hawaii where they have been staying since fleeing the Philippines in February.

Mr. Marcos has sought asylum outside the United States, which wants him to leave, but has been refused by Singapore, Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras and Spain, of which the Philippines was once a colony.

The government of Mrs. Aquino has said it would view as an "unfriendly act" any offer of shelter outside the United States, a point Mr. Laurel repeated Thursday.

The government also cancelled the passports of the Marcos family and those of close associates who fled with them.

The Daily Express quoted Mr. Laurel as saying King Hassan was a personal friend of the family.

"Morocco used to be part of Spain and its culture is partly Spanish," he said. "The Marcos family can feel quite at home in that country like they did in Hawaii because of the climate."

Sikhs kill peace activist in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists killed a Communist Party peace activist, his son and a neighbour, the second multiple killing of minority Hindus in Punjab in two days, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Friday.

Six gunmen shot dead Ajeet Ram and his son Thursday night as they slept in the courtyard of their home at Fatehabad, 45 kilometres from Amritsar city, the news agency said.

Ram, a Hindu, had led a 300-strong peace march through nearby Khadoor Sahib village when Hindus began fleeing Sikh majority Punjab in May for fear of extremist attacks.

PTI said the gunmen killed Ram and his son on the spot then shot a

neighbour who tried to flee. The killers escaped on foot shouting "Khalistan" slogans — the name of the independent Sikh state the extremists want to establish in Punjab.

The shootings raised to 13 the death toll from extremist violence in Punjab so far this month. Ninety-five people were killed in June.

Extremists shot dead five Hindus in a car on Wednesday and killed a passing cyclist who saw them dragging the bodies away.

Ram, a Communist Party of India (CPI) member, had been active in mobilising Hindu villagers against the extremists who have triggered an exodus of thousands of Hindus from the

state, PTI said.

"The shoot-out has left the minority (Hindu) community shocked," senior Punjab (CPI) leader Satya Pal Dang told reporters.

The Sikh holy city of Amritsar has been under curfew for the past two weeks following Hindu-Sikh riots.

Extremists killed a man Thursday in Ferozepur district near the border with Pakistan, the scene of frequent extremist violence, PTI reported.

Police said they arrested five suspected extremists Thursday and a head police constable who allegedly supplied them with arms.

Pope starts visit to western Colombia

CALI, Colombia (AP) — Pope John Paul II headed Friday for western Colombia, an area rife with guerrilla activity and extreme poverty, after telling labourers and slum dwellers in Bogota to reject Marxist-inspired violence.

The pontiff, arriving Thursday night in Cali, a tropical city of 1 million people 290 kilometres south west of the capital, planned a visit Friday morning to the poverty-stricken Pacific coast fishing town of Tumaco.

Nine in 10 of Tumaco's 45,000 inhabitants are descendants of African slaves brought by Spanish colonisers to dredge the sweltering area's muddy rivers for gold. They have retained many of their African traditions, including a belief in evil spirits.

The inhabitants greeted the Pope with African drumbeats. Pope John Paul was to celebrate mass and deliver a homily at a Catholic mission.

After Tumaco, the Pope planned to visit Popayan, a city of 157,000 people devastated by an

earthquake three years ago.

He arrived in Cali on the Colombian presidential airliner, a Fokker 28, landing at a military airfield amid the tight security evident since his arrival in the country on Tuesday. He heads for Rome on Monday.

From the airport he travelled standing in the back of a pick-up truck in a compartment of bullet-proof glass. En route to a seminary where he spent the night, he passed through the city's central Parque De La Cuna, or sugar cane park, packed with white-smoked schoolchildren who waved and cheered in the rain.

His quarters at the seminary were spartan: A small, plain, white-washed room with an austere wood-framed bed and a wooden table and lamp.

The outskirts of Cali, in a prosperous farming valley, were the site earlier this year of guerrilla fighting. The area has seen some of the fiercest battling in three years of leftist insurgency.

In his final public appearance in Bogota, the pontiff spoke at El Tunal Park, on the edge of a huge slum where about one sixth of the city's 6 million inhabitants live in extreme poverty.

The rally in the park was preceded by a march of slum dwellers whose children presented the Pope with a letter that portrayed their existence amid mounds of trash, scarce drinking water, epidemics and precarious fire-trap tarpaper shacks.

The Pope made no public response to the letter but in his address he said that he sympathised with the country's poor but urged patience.

"I speak of those who suffer the pain of seeing their children without enough to eat, to dress and to be educated," he said.

"You live in the confinement of one humble room, without elementary utilities, your work is badly remunerated and uncertain. You are anguished by the insecurity of the future."

Houses, shops burnt in Sri Lankan clashes

COLOMBO (R) — About 40 houses and shops were set on fire during clashes between rival groups Thursday in Sri Lanka's tea growing central province, police said Friday.

A senior police official in the district told Reuters tensions were high and a night curfew may be imposed if necessary.

The trouble broke out two days ago in Pundaloya when some residents, mostly Sinhalese,

fought Tamil tea workers over a private business transaction. The clashes led to about 10,000 workers going on strike and demanding that the attackers be punished by the authorities.

The fight spread Thursday with rival groups blocking roads with trees and large boulders and about 35 homes and five shops set on fire. Five people were injured when police opened fire on

rioters.

The official said the situation was under control, but people have been asked to keep off the streets. He added shops were closed and Pundaloya was deserted.

Workers in tea estates are mainly of Indian-Tamil origin and have often been involved in clashes with the majority Sinhalese in the area.

Australians' execution order sent to jail despite appeal

PENANG, Malaysia (R) — An execution order for two condemned Australian drug-traffickers has been sent to the superintendent of the Kuala Lumpur jail where they are on death row, Malaysia's attorney-general said Friday.

The order had been sent to Pudu Jail where Brian Chambers and Kevin Barlow are on death row, Tan Sri Abu Talib Othman told reporters after a high court hearing on the case was adjourned until July 14.

Officials at the jail said the men had not been hanged.

Mr. Abu Talib said there was now nothing to stop the hangings, not even suits by lawyers Subash Chandra and Karpal Singh who allege that the Penang Pardons Board contravened natural justice by not letting them attend commutation hearings while allowing the state prosecutor to be present.

Mr. Karpal and Mr. Subash told reporters they would appeal to the governor of Penang Friday for a

stay of execution.

Justice Dato Peh Swee Chin suggested that the execution order be ignored but said: "It's merely a suggestion."

The lawyers confirmed that he had no power to order a stay.

"It's scandalous to execute the two men if proceedings are underway. We are asking the governor to stop the execution in the name of humanity," Mr. Subash told reporters.

But Mr. Abu Talib said: "The court has decided it has no jurisdiction over the stay of execution. It's not that the pardons board has not considered all the aspects of the case as alleged by the lawyers... we've considered everything."

Mr. Karpal said: "The case (issuing the execution order) has done a lot of damage to the attorney-general's department. (He) should have advised the governor that there should be a stay of execution. The signing came as a shock. An execution warrant can always be acted on

and there is no hurry."

Earlier, the high court adjourned briefly to investigate Mr. Abu Talib's shock announcement that the order had already been signed. He said the Penang legal adviser, who had pledged to withhold it until the case was heard, had no power to do so.

After the court adjourned in confusion following the announcement, Mr. Subash changed "gross interference" and Mr. Karpal Singh said: "The two people may have been executed while we are here."

Judge Dato Peh Swee Chin adjourned the hearing for 30 minutes to investigate. Mr. Peh was substituted in a surprise and unexplained move Friday for Judge Edgar Joseph.

"It's unusual to change the judge — at least at this stage," another counsel for Chambers, R. Rajasingham, said.

Chambers and Barlow, who was born in England, were arrested in Penang in 1983 with 180 grammes

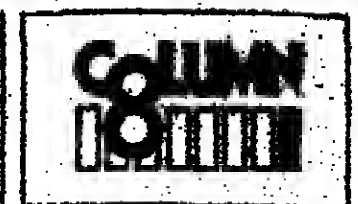
(6.3 ounces) of heroin and given mandatory death sentences on conviction last July. They lost appeals to the supreme court in December.

The Penang pardons board threw out their appeal for clemency on June 21 and Friday's case and another filed by Mr. Karpal were a last-ditch effort to save them from the gallows.

If hanged, they will be the first Caucasians to die in Malaysia for drug offences. Thirty-six people, mostly South East Asians, have been executed since 1975 for drug offences and another 107 people are awaiting trial or appeals.

The two men's relatives have appealed to the King of Malaysia and to Britain's Queen Elizabeth but neither has any jurisdiction in the case.

The British and Australian governments and human rights groups like Amnesty International have also sought clemency.



King Hassan chooses name for goalkeeper's baby girl

RABAT (R) — King Hassan has chosen a name for Moroccan Goalkeeper Badou Zaki's new daughter, born while her father was in Mexico for the World Cup. According to local custom, the king thus becomes a kind of godfather to the baby. Zaki, one of the best goalkeepers of the tournament, was due back with the team's excellent performance in reaching the second phase. Youth and Sports Minister Abdul Latif Semlali told Moroccan television that King Hassan named the baby Hassan, after one of his daughters.

Diana, Philip to be godparents to Prince Philippos

LONDON (AP) — Prince Diana and the Duke of Edinburgh, wife and father of Prince Charles, are to be godparents to the latest addition to the Greek Royal Family in exile. Buckingham Palace has said Prince Philippos, two-month-old son of ex-King Constantine and Queen Anne-Marie, is to be christened at the Greek Orthodox cathedral of St. Sophia in London next Thursday. Prince Philippos is Queen Anne-Marie's fifth child and third son. King Constantine, a cousin of Prince Philip, is godfather to Prince William of Wales. The other godparents — there will be seven — include King Juan Carlos of Spain, who is married to King Constantine's sister Sofia.

Newly-born baby found alive a day after burial

DHAKA (R) — A new-born boy was found alive 24 hours after being buried to save his unmarried teenage mother from the penalties for illegal sex, Bangladesh police said Friday. Police opened the grave after some residents of Dhanabari village in northern Tangail district said they suspected something valuable had been buried. Premarital sex is illegal under Islamic Law but local authorities said Kajali Begum, 16, would not be charged because the father agreed to make her his second wife.

Man fined 4,000 bricks for adultery

JAKARTA (R) — A man in East Java was fined 4,000 bricks for committing adultery with his neighbour's wife, the English-language daily Jakarta Post said Friday. The village chief of Selokajang, Marwoto, decided to impose similar fines on any other man found making love with someone other than his wife as way of augmenting village income, the Post said. The unidentified villager only had 1,000 bricks, but Marwoto said he could pay the rest in instalments, the Post said. His bicycle also was seized to keep him from repeating his offence in neighbouring villages.

Monkey child found in Uganda

KAMPALA (R) — A tiny child who behaves like a monkey has been found in Uganda where he lived wild with apes in the jungle of the Luwero Triangle, site of massacres and killings during Uganda's civil war. The boy shuns humans, moves like a monkey and grunts and squeals instead of speaking. Although estimated to be between five and seven years old, he is about two foot six inches tall (76 centimetres) and weighs 10 kilos. Retreating Uganda government troops found him living with monkey's last September. He is now at Naguru Orphanage in Kampala where nurses have given him the name Robert. Theresa Nansukombi, who runs the orphanage, said in an interview that he eats anything — "grass, clothes, blankets and sheets, even stones. He looks miserable all the time. No one has ever seen a smile on his face... when he moves he just trots or bounds on his miserable thin legs like a monkey," she said. Orphanage staff believe Robert lost his parents in infancy during fighting in the Luwero area and was mothered by a chimpanzee or a gorilla. Foreign relief workers in Uganda say there may be similar children living wild in the Luwero Triangle north of Kampala.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SEARF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A74 ♠A8652 ♠95 ♠J54:
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠76 ♠K543 ♠A85 ♠10743
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.3 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J83 ♠AK76542 ♠Q93
Partner opens the bidding with three clubs. What action do you take?
- Q.4 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A95 ♠A ♠A862 ♠AK103
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♥ ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠62 ♠A52 ♠QK ♠AK864
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.6 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KQ107 ♠62 ♠QK85 ♠102
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♥ ?
What do you bid now?